A DECLARATION OF THE TRVE CAVSES OF THE GREAT TROVBLES, PRESVPPOSED TO BE INTENded againſt the realme of England.

VVherein the indifferent reader ſhall manifeſtly perceaue, by VVhome, and by VVhat meanes, the realme is broughte into theſe pretented perills.

Seene and allowed.

Anno, M. D. LXXXXII.

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Wherein the indifferent reader shall manifestly perceaue, by whome, and by what meanes, the realme is brought into these pretented perills.

Scene and allowed.

Anno, M. D. LXXXII.

TO THE INDIFFERENT READER.

THE preſent eſtate, that the realme of England is in a fewe yeares come vnto, and the ſundry aduerſities ſuſtayned by the inhabitãts of theſame, are ſuch, and ſomany, as the lamentable and generall cries and complaintes of the oppreſſed multytude, cã declare them to exceede all thoſe of all ages paſt, in the memorie of man.

And yet of the redreſſe of theſe calamities, ſo litle hope is giuen, that nought els, but the terrors of farr greater troubles, are daily ſounded in the eares of the afflicted people: which can be to no other end, then to enduce them to beare ſuch further extreame miſery, and pouertie, as by the newe intended exactions, preſſures, & pillages, they are lyke to be brought vnto. But strãge it is to conſider, that the auoydance of ſuch great daungers, as are pretended vnto the realme (and expected; as is inſinuated, by a ſpaniſh inuaſion) is neither ſoughte nor deſyred, by geuing that king ſatisfaction of the manifeſte iniuries don vnto him, nor in the reſtitution of his townes and cities wrongfully poſſeſſed by the Engliſh: But falſly ſuppoſed to conſiſt in the perſecuting and killing of a fewe poore prieſts and Ieſuytes within the realme, that there do ſecretly practize their prieſtly functions, to the conſolation of ſuch afflicted Catholikes as liue within the ſame, or to the conuerſion of ſuch well mynded proteſtants, as will not obſtinately refuſe to vnderſtand their owne

errors, When they are made manifeſt vnto them, by which meanes many are confirmed in Catholike religion, and ſome numbers brought from hereſy to embrace the truthe. Which albeit the malice of the aduerſary hath not letted to withſtād, euen with the effuſiō of bloud, yet cōſidering that the force of truthe is great and dothe preuaile, the violence of the enemy is alſo mightely encreaſed, Who directly ſeeking the lyues and goods of Catholikes, for their conſcyence and religiō, laboreth by all meanes poſsible, to make the cauſe of their ſufferance to ſeme to be for treaſon. Vnder pretext whereof, by a late proclamation publiſhed in London in Nouember laſt 1592. in the name of the Queene, theire are yet more exquiſite meanes of inquiſition deuyſed, to bring them vnto the ſlaughter, then were euer vſed afore.

And becauſe all men can not without ſome demonſtration ſo rightly diſcerne the truthe of this caſe, and the cauſes of the ſuppoſed perills, as it is requiſyte for euery man to know, and the ſway of the tyme not permitting the ſame otherwiſe to be vttered, they are in the enſuing treatiſe briefly ſet downe.

In the Which, albeit that euery fryuolous point of the aforeſaid proclamation be not expreſly anſwered, yet is the intention of the inuētor thereof directly impugned, and the iuſt blame imputed where it is iuſtly deſerued. It may therefore pleaſe the diſcreet reader (laying aſyde all partialitie) With an indifferent eye, to behold the manifeſt truth, that ſhal (in this treatiſe) be laid open vnto him, the Which for his owne ſafty he muſt vſe With ſecreeſie, and ſylence, becauſe of the great a-do, that the great Lord Threatherer Will kepe, to depreſſe and conceile it from the ſight and knowlege of the World, the Which may ſerue

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for any especial motiue, to proue that he knoweth him selfe to be guilty in conscience, yf he haue any at al. And thus leauing the reader out of the matter ensuing (with some addition of something here omitted) to make a commentarie vpon Chaucers propheſie, I wiſh him well to fare from Colen the 26. of Marche 1592.

Of the fained happineſſe of England.

The vaunt of the pretended Goſpel.

NO triumphes of the Goſpells lighte,
But truthe that ſhyneth cleere.
Not vvordes, but actions iuſt and righte
Makes vertue to apeere.
See then vvhat force this faith hath found,
More then of elder dayes.
And let the vices that abound,
Confirme the preſent praiſe.

The boaſt of continual peace.

The tokens of continued peace,
By plenty beſt are ſhovven.
But ſignes of vvarr that do he not ceaſſe,
By comon vvants are knovven.
Such is the peace vve then preferr,
And eke our plenty ſo:
That thovvſands hath conſumde in vvarr,
And millions left in vvo.

The preſent feare of troubles.

And all expyred dayes and yeares.
And fained pleaſures paſt:
Conuerted are to ſundry feares,
Of dangers at the laſt.
VVould God no former cauſe had beene,
Reuenges to vttend.
Since happyneſſe is euer ſeene,
Beſt by the happy end.

WHen Queene Marie, that lately poſſeſſed the crovvne and kingdome of England, had reſigned her ſoule vnto God, and her bodie to nature: the lordes ſpirituall and tẽporall, & the comons of the realme receaued into that crovvne and dignitie, the lady Elizabeth her ſiſter, à Princeſſe yonge and beautifull, and aboundantly adorned with the giftes of nature, and princely education. The King of Spaine, albeit he had bene maried vnto the deceaſed Queene, yet did he neuer ſeke to poſſeſſe himſelf of the crowne, nor to appropriate vnto him, any Cities, Caſtels, Portes or other places within the realme, nor in any ſorte to oppugne the entrance of the newe Queene, but in all loue and actes of amitie, he did manifeſt his well lyking of her highe aduauncement: aſwell in the geuing vnto her all his late wyves Iewels, which were of great value, as in his earneſtly labouring with the French for the reſtitution of Calis, to the encreaſe of her dominions.

A litle before the death of the aforeſaid Queene, there was à treaty of peace begun, betwene England, Spaine, and Fraunce, including by conſequẽce Scotlãd, & Flaunders, the which peace notwithſtanding the aforeſaid Queenes deceaſſe, went forward, and was fully concluded.

Thus ſtood the realme of England ſhortly af ter this Queenes coming to the crowne, in per-fect peace and amitie with all the countries next adioyning, and thoſe alſo, neither in ciuil broyles among themſelues, nor in diſſention with their neighbours abrode. The Moores of *Grana-da*, liued in obedience to the king of Spaine, the names of *Huguenots* and *Gheuſes*, were in Fraũce and Flaunders vtterly vnknowne and vnhard of, and in Scotland was no contention for gouer nement.

But as the Serpent, being ſubtiler then all the beaſts of the feild, did ſomtyme ſeduce the firſt woman and Queene of the world, to breake the cõmaundemẽt of God, wherby herſelf was forced to exile, and her poſteritie made ſubiect for euer after to ſuch infinite calamities: So wanted there not now a ſly Sicophant, to ſug-geſt this princeſſe to breake the vnitie of Gods Churche, and eft-ſoones to proſecute ſuch vio-lent attempts againſt other princes, the old allies of her predeceſſors, as thereby herſelf and realme is brought vnto theſe preſent feares, and to expect ſuch inſuing daungers, as God may per-mit to fall vpon them.

Very probable it is, that the Queene, ſo ſhe might haue enioyed the kingdome, could aſwell haue bene contented to haue cõtinued the faith of her auncetours, as to be brought vnto her co-ronation with ſolemne proceſsion of the Catho lyke clergie, and at a maſſe by a Catholike Biſhop to be bothe crowned & anointed: at what tyme, ſhe vowed by othe to defend and maintayne that Catholyke faith and religion, the which

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point I do only here alleage, for proof of her mea ning not to chaunge religion, wherein yf ſhe had firmly remained, ſhe ſhould haue left vnto the world a farr greater memorie of her giftes of nature and educatiō. But hauing once repoſed cō fidence in this ſuggeſter, he ſhadowed his ſiniſter practiſes vnder her authoritie, and lefte the ob-loquie of his owne vniuſt actions, to redound vnto her, and her eſtate. For this perſon, vnto whoſe wylineſſe was ioyned a wōderfull ambi-tion, who beeing by birth but of meane degree, & thereby denied to be ſet in equalitie, with the nobilitie and peeres of the realme, for the better ſatisfying of his inſatiable deſire of greatneſſe, re ſolued that the beſt way for his aduancement, muſt be by innouation, and that in no leſſe mat-ter, then in points of faith, and religion, for that by experience late before in the other Queenes dayes, he could neither by the greatneſſe of his beades, creeping to the croſſe, nor exterior ſhew of deuotiō before the highe altar, fynde his en-trāce into highe dignitie, to be ſo ſpeedie as by this meanes he deemed it. And therefore among other his fraudulent reaſons, he ſiniſterly perſwa ded the Queene, that ſhe could not ſtand perma-nent in her crowne and kingdome, vnleſſe ſhe did condeſcend vnto the alteration of religion. and hereby he ſo farr abuſed the ſexe and capaci-tie of his Princeſſe, that the gate vnto all enſuiug iniquitie was ſpedely opened. He then promo-ted vnto authoritie one *Nicolas Bacon*, with whome before he was lyncked in bādes of affini tie, vvho being alſo of meane birth, but of an ex ceding craftie witt, was the more fit to be ioy-

ned with himself in the menaging of the newv gouernement.

I do not here deny, but that any man howv meane soeuer, may by iust prerogatiue obtaine credit & honor, by his vertuous endeuours: neither cā any honor be more due, thē that which is atchiued by desert. But how this person with his compagnion haue vsurped their reputation, their actions haue since manifested to all the world, as hereafter shalbe shewed: espetially in the suruiuer, being the beginer, prosecutor, and continuer of the ruyne of England, and the disturbāce almost of euery Christiā regiō. And he that (as is said before) was farr inferior to be matched in ranck, with the nobilite of the realme, hath in a fewe yeares so ouermatched them al, & either by fained crimes cut them of, or by one meanes or other, so maimed them of their due honor and authoritie, that he hathe now made himself *Dictator perpetuꝰ*. The Queene now being broughte, to condescend vnto the chaunge of the old religion, he broughte also the election of the new, to lie in his owne choise: and neither followed the doctrine of the Lutherans of Germanie, nor that of the Caluinists of *Geneua*, but prescribed a composition of his owne inuention. Almost all the old Bishops and clergie he thrust into prison, and there consumed them, and forced the others in exile to end the rest of their dayes: and to supply their places, he shufled together the very rif raf, and refuse of the world. A wedded ministry he would haue (albeit the Queene neuer lyked it) because the fugitiue Apostataes that were novv returned into Englād, &

fittest

fitteſt for this nevv function, were for the moſt parte coopled with yoke fellowes, & had vnited the fleſh vnto the world, & the deuill: & the defects that wãted to make vp tale, of this miniſteriall multytude, were takẽ vp without partialitie, frõ tapſters, tickers, & ſuch depe diuynes, & theſe were ſent abrode to preache, & ſtarve the cures throughout the whole coũtrie. Some veſtures of the old clergie he left in the churches, whereby the bearded miniſters, his trãsformed apes, might ſomuch the better imitate the outward apparence of Catholike prieſts: & the more to diminiſh this great conceit, of mutation in faith amõg the people, and to make them wene, that the old ſeruice was but turned out of Latin into Engliſh, and ſome ceremonies only altered: the *Goſpels*, *Epiſtles*, pte of the *Letany*, & the very *Collects* vſed before at *Maſſe*, were ordayned by a booke of Iniũctiõs to be daily red in the churches. The name of this new profeſsion was borrowed from Germany, for the profeſſors would be called Proteſtants (a name vnknovvne vnto all our Catholike auncetors, in all ages, ſince firſt they receyued Chriſtianitie) but the chiefeſt ſubſtance of doctrine, was taken frõ Geneua, whereunto the compoſitor, added of himſelf, an Eccleſiaſticall ſuperioritie to the Queene, vvhich Iohn Caluine vvhoſe doctrine they lyked neereſt to followv, dothe terme to be Antichriſtian in any tẽporall prince, and it was neuer chalenged by any prince Chriſtian, before king H. the eighte: nor neuer atributed to any heathen potentate, except by one only people of Perſia called the Aſaſynes: for they in the yeare of our Lord 1253. admited

Much more in a vvoomã.

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their religion to depend wholy vpon the will of their Prince.

Thus was the proteſtanticall congregation of Englād created, & erected, moſt repugnāt to the old Catholike faith, participant of ſome newe hereſies, and yet not conſonant to any one religion els: but different and diſagreeing from all ſectes and religions, paſt & preſent vnder heauē: and what confuſion it hathe ſince declyned vnto in it ſelf, ſhal here after be declared. The apologie of this Church was written in Latin, & trāſlated into Engliſh by A.B. with the comendatiō. of M. C. which twaine were ſiſters, & wiues vnto *Cecill*, and *Bacon*, and gaue their aſsiſtance and helping hands, in the plot and fortification of this newe erected ſynagog.

But becauſe ſo ſtrange and extraordinarie a doctrine, being in an *antipathia* to all, and in vnitie with none, was vnlykely to haue lōg endurance: eſpetially wanting ſuch deepe roote of ſucceſsion from Chriſt and his Apoſtles, as hathe theſe many hundred yeares preſerued in vigeur one only entire faith and religion, againſt all hereſies, ſchiſmes, & diſſētions whatſoeuer, & the author fearing leaſt with the decay of this late erected Churche, the creator with the creature might fall: he then as impudently reiecting all ſhewe of moral honeſty, as late before he had don his hipocriticall cloke of deuotion, ſtudied to put all countries in garbroiles round about him. And for the effectuating of this his heroical intention, he begā to vſe the excercize of a newe ſkill, & that was alwaies to pſwade the Queene, that other princes ment to inuade her dominions,

nions, when himself ment to drawe her to any violent attempt against them. It is a world to see how his experience hathe since encreased in this practize, & how well he hathe made this deuice to extend, to the encrease of Englands enmitie with all the world: and how for his labor, he hathe purchased among fooles the reputation of wisdome, albeit he hathe lost among wisemen the esteeme of honestie.

The first proof of this deuice, to stirr vp tumults in other princes dominiõs, he put in practize with Scotland the countrie next adioyning, where-vpon sone after folowed the warres of *Lythe*, the succesſe whereof, becauſe it fel not out so well as to his purpose he wisshed, himself went thether to patche vp a peace, the which he so well disposed of, that they were neuer since out of cõtinuall warres. And for the better & more assured maintenance of discord, he hathe not letted euer since, to hyre some principall persons for yearely wages, to nowrish and continew rebellions, quarrells, & factions, by which meanes, the treasure of the realme hathe not only bene infinitely wasted, but at sundry tymes, diuers great troopes of Englisſh forces haue bene sent thether, conducted by the Earle of Sussex and others, whereof hathe ensued very great effusion of bloud of either nation, diuers horrible murthers, the exyle of the Scottisſh Queene, and the transposing of the realme, to the rule of an infant, vnder the gouernment of a bastard. But what infortunate endes, this vsurper and sundrie others there sett vp for regentes haue come vnto, is manifest to the world, and the great mur-

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thers that haue ſprong, throughe the ſeede of diſſention firſt ſowen by this pacifier, haue not ceaſed euẽ with the ſlaughter of that queene, but wil end the lyues of many before they be ended.

Now, as one that of hatred vnto idleneſſe, would rather chooſe to be occupied in iniquitie, then to offend in ſlothe, in the meane whyle, that theſe diſſentions were entretained in Scotlãd, cõſidering that by the mariage of the French king vnto the Scotiſh queene, their two realmes were lynked together, and that the French king was but an orphane, he neglected not his oportunitie, to bring France, to ſtãd in as good termes as Scotland, & therefore he ſent ouer Sir *Nicolas Throgmortõ*, to perſwade ſuch French vnto rebellio as he founde to be mutinous, & diſcõtented: and for furtherance thereof, he promiſed them aſſiſtãce of mony, and munitiõ, out of Englãd. The vvhich promiſſe, was accordingly performed. For M. *Cecill* ſeldome failed, to kepe his woord in any ſuch couuenant, & the ſeduced French, ſo wel kept tutch on the other ſyde, that they proceded vnto a very flatt rebellion, and ſo purchaſed the nevv name of *Huguenots*. But this aſſiſtance not being found ſufficient, the more to engage the realme of England in that cauſe, the *Huguenots* were wrought to deliuer vnto the Queenes hãdes, the tovvnes of *Newhauen*, *Diepe*, & diuers others: the acceptãce whereof, ſome of the aunci ent nobilitie of the realme (that yet remained of the councel) vtterly miſliked, and aleaged, that it was an ill preſident to aſſiſt the rebels of other princes, leaſt the lyke might be offred vnto the Queene: which conſiderate councell auailed litle,

Hugenotes.

litle with him, that mẽt to make this, no more but an introduction to greater miſchieues. For *Vaughan*, *Pellam*, and one *Portinato*, an Italian, were ſent ouer to take the view of *Newhauen*, and theſe returned with relation, that the Engliſh were able with 2000. to defẽd it againſt all the world: and hereupon the matter was reſolued, notwithſtanding all former alleagations: and forward it went, but not without a vizard: for their was a booke written in iuſtification of that action, to ſignify to the world, that the intentiõ of the Engliſh, was but to kepe the poſſeſsiõ of that towne vntill the king came to age: as thoughe the maſter of the wardes in England, had had the wardſhip of the French king alſo. And another reaſon was, for that the other party (to wit the princes and peeres of the realme, that were of the kings councell) did meane to bring ſtrangers into the countrie, from whome (of all other places) they had great care to preſerue this towne: whereupon a very difficill queſtion might be moued, to wit, whether the Engliſh in thoſe dayes were more naturall Frenchmen then other ſtrangers. But leauing the reſolutiõ of this doubt, certaine it is, that there were ſent ouer vnto *Newhauen* 4000. men, which were but 2000. more then were nedefull to withſtand all the world: perhaps to remaine in prouiſion againſt *Nouus orbis*, which peraduenture might come againſt it alſo, but how this towne was defended frõ Fraũce only, by the ſhame-full abandoning thereof it did appeere. And this loſſe was not vnaccompagned with a greater euill, for the ſoldiers that returned back againe into England, brought with *Cecill.*

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them ſuch a plague of peſtilence, as generally infected the moſt partes of the realme, and in the citie of London, and the ſuburbes, there died in 12. monethes, 20000. perſons. And the very *Huguenotes* themſelues, abhorring the fraudulēt dealinges of the Engliſh, hauing obtayned a peace and perdon of their king, became the very firſt, that bent their forces to expulſe them, wherein may be noted, with what firme amitie the Engliſh & French are vnited, in the diſcordant vnitie of the new Goſpell. It is further to be obſerued, that the French king fynding the Engliſh (whoſe name among the french people is ſo odious) to haue gotten footing in *Normandie*, to the end that he might be deliuered of them in that prouince, offred to deliuer the towne of *Calis* preſently back againe, into the Queenes poſſeſsion: The which he was not bound to do, vntill certaine yeares were expyred, & this offer by the only perſwaſion of *Cecill* was refuſed, who told the Queene, that ſhe might well kepe the one, and recouer the other: but in fyne all was loſt. For the Engliſh, as is alredy touched, diſhonorablye forſoke *Normandie*, & the French hoſtages that lay in Englād for the rendring of Calis, were priuily let go againe into Fraunce (and as it is very probable) by the only deuice and woorking of M. *Cecill*. The matter of Newhauen, being thus begun with iniuſtice and ended with ſhame, the authors practizes for the maintenance of the French rebelliōs, therewithall ended not. But he had gained the ſkill, better to contriue the execution of his owne plots, vnder the auctoritie of the ſtate, and to be leaſt ſeene, in thoſe thinges,

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that moſt he proſecuted. And therefore procured, that with diuers great ſommes of mony frō England, diuers troopes of Germaines were leuyed frō tyme to tyme, and brought into Fraūce, for the aſsiſtance of the Huguenots: by which meanes, the confederatie betwene the Engliſh and them, was now growen ſo ſtrong, that they would neuer in any treaty with their king, conclude any conditions without the counſell and conſent of their Engliſh confederates (as it was alwaies manifeſtly fonnde, and prooued) By whoſe crafty direction they were ſo gouerned, that they euer obtayned more by making their peace, then by the ſucceſſe of their warr. And at ſuch tyme as the oportunitie ſerued not to ſtirr vp the Huguenotes againſt the king, they letted not to ſtir vp his owne brother, and the houſe of *Montmorancie* againſt him, for the proſecuting whereof, the brother of the ſaid *Montmorancie*, and the Prince of *Condie* came into England, and there receyued the ſomme of 50. thowſand poūdes: which was paſt ouer by exchange, by way of Antwerp, and Colen, for the firſt leuy of men, and bringing in of Caſimire. By meanes of which forces, the king was conſtrained to giue vnto his brother, *Aniow*, *Main*, *Towrain*, & *Tours*, whereby his partage was made greater, thē any brother to any king of Frannce before him.

Now when by this meanes the French king was thus-much feebled, then was the ſaid Duke of *Aniow* broughte into England, to be made the make-fyre betweene the two moſt potent realmes of Chriſtendome, Spaine, and Fraunce: but vnder the colour and countenance of matrimo-

ny: which being in the end conuerted into a mock-mariage: *Monſieur* receyued his errand to go into the low countries of the king of Spaine, & there was he made, *Antiduke* of *Brabant*, the which laudable deuice, yf any in Englād had cōtri ued except *M. Cecill*, or yf it had euer bene practi zed in any other princes tyme thē in this, it could haue bene no leſſe then highe treaſon. For that, to put an heire apparent of Fraunce, in poſſeſsiō of Flaunders, is a matter of no leſſe moment, thē to giue dooble ſtrengthe vnto an auncient ene- my, and to leaue England, for a future breakfaſt, vnto a French king. But it pleaſed God ſoone to quench the fire, that mōſieur was ſent to kindle. For the new duke of *Brabant*, being ſubdued by his ſubiectes, was in the nonage of his raigne, for ced with much diſhonor, to returne into France. VVhere the remembrance of the deceatful dealinges of England, and the ſhame that lately he had ſuſtained in the low countries, did make his owne indiſcretions apparent vnto himſelf: and ſo aggrauated his ſickneſſe, thatthe reuenge which he threatned vnto Englād, he was faine to leaue vnto God, and his duchie of *Brabant*, vnto the right owner: For ſoone after his arry- uall in Fraunce, with very much grief of mynde he died.

Monſieur being thus departed this world, it was neceſſarie, that ſome nevv occaſion were ſoughte out, for the continuance of M. *Cecill* his eternall reſolution, which the ſiniſter practi- zes paſt, and the iniquities of the tyme preſent, ſuffred not to be ōg ſought for. For he foorwith diſcouered, that the French king had entretained

To ſovv ſedition.

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an il opiniõ, of the princes of the houſe of Guyſe, vnto the which houſe, albeit that the King and his bretheren, the late kinges before him, had bene as much beholding, as a king could be vnto his ſubiectes: yet by the ſuggeſtion of a leud mignion, all their manifold deſertes were vngratefully forgotten. *D. Eſperon.*

And then for the better nowriſhing of theſe diſlikes, an extraordinarie league of amitie was concluded with the french King, who ſoone after, became ſo attentiue vnto good inſtructions, that he cõmitted moſt horrible murthers, vpon tvvo of the princes of the ſaid houſe: and what end himſelf ſhortly after came vnto, is manifeſt enough.

But to leaue Scotland and Fraunce in thoſe termes, vvherunto they are novv led: vve vvill come vnto Spaine, as to the matter of greateſt momẽt, & the ſubiect of this diſcours. The King vvhereof, hauing left the Q. of England, preſently vppon Q. Maries deceaſſe, in full poſſeſsiõ of that kingdome, and by ſundry demonſtratiõs giuen proof of his entire loue and amitie vnto her: and alſo of his firme intention to continevv the old concord, that had ſo long endured betweene the kinges of England, and the houſe of Burgundie, being alſo at peace with the French king, & hauing placed for the gouernmẽt of the Netherlandes, the *Ducheſſe* of *Parma*, he departed into Spaine.

And albeit (as it is wel knowne) he hath euer bene a prince, that by nature is diſpoſed vnto peace, yet cõſidering the greatneſſe of the *Turk*, and his inceſſant attemptes in the inuading of

Christendome, whereof some vniuersall danger mighte be feared to ensue, he determined to employ such meanes as God had giuē him, to withstand the intention of this comon enemy. The which soone after, he began to put in practize, as hereafter shalbe declared.

But this cours of proceeding lyked not him, that had designed his plots vnto other purposes, and that rather sought to woork some speciall domage to the king of Spaine, then to haue the potēcie of the Turck diminished. And therefore for an introduction thereunto, to make him odious vnto the people, certaine players were permitted to scof and iest at him, vpon their comō stages. And the lyke was vsed in contempt of his religiō: first, to make it no better thē Turkish he, by annexing vnto the very psalmes of Dauid (as thoughe the prophet himself had bene the author thereof) this ensuing meeter.

Preserue vs lord by thy deere woord,
From Turck and Pope defend vs lord,
That bothe, would thrust out of his throne,
Our lord Iesus Christ, thy deere sonne.

And after, by making it farr more odious and woors, then was the religion of Mahomet. As diuers ministers, did at diuers tymes insinuate vnto the people. And one of them in a sermon at Paules crosse, affirmed that it was a more better acte to assist Turks, then Papistes. For the which woordes, the L. *Buckhurst* thesame day reproued him, at the shirif of Londons table: but M. minister stoode vnto his tacling, and had (as it seemed) learned his lesson, of the superintēdent of VVinchester, who published in a printed booke,

Horne.

booke, that it was better to ſweare vnto the Turk and turkery, then vnto the Pope and popery, and that the Pope is a more perillous enemy to Chriſt, then the Turk. But in the meane whyle it is a good Goſpell, that maketh him that teacheth vs to beleeve that Chriſt is the ſonne of God, and ſauior of the world, and him by whoſe meanes, our forefathers were baptiſed in the name of the Father, Sonne, & holy Ghoſt, to be woors then he, that denyeth Chriſt to be the ſonne of God, and conſtreyneth Chriſtians to renounce their chriſtendome.

Theſe preparatiues being thus made, the *Moores* that inhabited the kingdome of *Granada*, were excited to rebellion. Vnto whome, althoughe the Engliſh would not openly ſend forces of men, yet they ſent them ſuccors of powder, ſhot, artillery, & other munition of warr. There were alſo, certaine French pirates, that vnder colour of authoritie from the Q of Nauarr (that then was) the prince of *Condie*, the Shatillion, and others, were ſent foorth to robbe and endomage the king of Spaine, and his ſubiects & all theſe had free paſſage and entrance, to and from the portes and hauens of England. And ſoone after, one *Kirkham*, and diuers other Engliſh of the weſtcountrey, were permitted to go foorthe to robbe and ſpoile the Spaniardes, wherof the Spaniſh Ambaſſador then reſident in England, inſtantly demaunding redreſſe and reſtitution, was denied of either. And the goodes thus taken by piracie, were brought into diuers townes weſt ward, and there openly ſold.

Iane d Albret.

But in the meane whyle, that theſe leſſe iniu-

ries were continued, a matter of farr greater mischief was practized, to witt, the rebellion of the kinges naturall subiectes of his Netherlandes. VVhere the people, by reason of their great welth, were brought vnto pride, & the nobillitie throughe ouer-lauish expences, declyned vnto pouerty, and the newnesse & libertie of heresy, redy to fynde acceptance with either party, they were the sooner and more easely seduced by the English. The first attẽpt, being begũ by certaine rogues & vagabõdes, appointed to the spoiling of Churches, lefte the name of *Gheuses*, to those rebelles euer after: and these *Gheuses* being thus stirred vp, there was (to begin withall) 60, thousãd poũd sterling, sent ouer vnto the prince of *Orange*, for the leuying of those Ryters, that he broughte against the duke of *Alua*. The which somme of mony, was paide by sir *Thomas Gressam* in Antwerp.

Name of Gheuses.

By these attemptes and practizes, the king was cõstreyned to withdrawe the forces that he had intended & bent against infidells, to employ them in his owne countries against his owne subiects. VVith whome, being nowe enbranled in warres, there was sent by sea from Spaine for the paymẽt of his soldiers aboute the somme of 600. thowsand ducats, the which mony, was ceased vpõ in the west partes of Englãd, notwithstãding the Q. had giuen her passporte for the saf passage thereof: by which meanes, the kinges affaires were greatly let and hindred, and thereupon followed, a generall arrest of all marchants shippes, and goodes, in the lowe countries. And this action tending to some further great inconuenience,

Some write 800000.

uenièce, the councell assembled at *Hampton court*, and consulted at sundries tymes in the Queenes presence, whether it were best openly to breake with the king of Spaine or not, and after long deliberation, the whole bodie of the councell concluded, not to breake with him in any vvise. But to make present restitution of the said mony, for diuers causes: and the rather, for that they had but late before displeased the French king, in assisting his Huguenotes, and taking his townes, and might not vvithout imminent perill, incurr the enmitie of two such potét princes. But notvvithstanding this their generall resolution, being also consented vnto by the Queene, M. Cecill did afterwardes secretly persvvade her vnto the cõtrarie, whereby the decree made by the vvhole body of the councell, was broké: contrarie to the prerogatiue of the councell of Englád, which is knovvne to be greater, thé the auctoritie of any kinges councell els in *Europe*. And hereupon was the arrest of marchants goodes continued, and a stay of trafyke, betwene *Spaine*, *England* and the lovv countries, for three yeares together, to the vndoing and detri nent, asvvell of many of the subiects of *England*, as of sundrie the marchantes of the other countries. But in the meane vvhile, al such fugitiues and traitors, as had in the lovve countries cõmitted any enormious crimes, or could pilfer, or violétly robbe or take away, any thing from the king, or his other subiects, were receyued and harbored in England, which vvas novv become the open receptacle of churchrobbers, and priest-kilers.

Yea the very belles of the steeples of Chur-

ches, vvere caried into England, and there caſt into artillery. And one called *Monſieur de Lumay*, being alſo fled thether, receyued there ſuch inſtructions, that he came ouer into *Holland* & ſurpriſed the tovvne of *Briell*, vvhich vvas the firſt tovvne in all thoſe partes, rhat vvas poſſeſſed by manifeſt rebellio̅, and the preſidēt that *Fluſhing*, and diuers other townes ſhortly after followed. And to aſsiſt them in theſe proceedinges, there were ſent ouer with troopes of Engliſh forces, *Morgan*, Sir *Humfrey Gilbert*, and *Cheſter*. And then followed *North*, *Cotton*, *Candiſh*, and *Norris*, all being Coronells, & coming thether with whole regiments. And albeit theſe ſupplies were ſtill continued, and men muſtred and preſſed perforce to go ouer vnto this ſeruice, yet was it colourably ſhadowed to be don without cō-ſent of ſuperior auᵭhoritie, and the ſending of thē thereby diſ-auowed. But on the other ſyde, when any Engliſh for their encreaſſe of knowlege in military affaires did come ouer, or did intēd to come ouer to ſerue the king of Spaine, they were either before their departure, or vpon their returne, impriſoned and puniſhed. I may not heere omitt, that after the warres of Barbarie, made by Sebaſtian king of Portugall (wherein the Mahometaines were aſsiſted with munitiō againſt the Chriſtians by the Engliſh, and the ſaid King was ſlaine) the nobillitie and people of the realme of Portugall, hauing according to their lawes and cuſtomes, receyued the Cardinall (as the eldeſt of the blood royal) to be their king, and he being very aged, and not lykely to marry and haue iſſue, were entred into conſultation

tation about the ſucceſsion of the crowne, which being vnderſtood in England, and alſo that the Cardinall was enclyned vnto the king of Spaine, as his next heire, there was an Embaſſador forth-vvith ſent ouer from *England*, to offer the Portugales aſsiſtance, for the excluſion of the king of *Spaine*.

But this and the former practizes, being cloked vvith much conning, vvere either deemed able to paſſe vneſpied, or els theſe kyndes of moleſtatiõs vvere not thought ſufficient. And therefore it vvas held neceſſary, to attẽpt the robbing of the kinges treaſure els vvhere, the better therevvith to maintaine his rebelles againſt him in the lovve countries. And albeit M. *Haukins* and ſome others, had had but ill ſucceſſe in ſuch attemptes before, there vvas novv one *Franncis Drake* ſent foorthe vnto the VVeſt Indies, vvhere in the ſtreight of *Darien*, vnderſtanding of certaine mules, that vvere to paſſe laden vvith gold and ſiluer, from *Panama* to *Nombre de Dios*, he put himſelf in ambuſcade vvith an hundred ſhot, and ſett vppon tvvo vvhole companies of mules, vvhich came only vvith their driuers: and there very reſolutely tooke avvay their gold, not being able to cary the ſiluer vvith him throughe the mountaines. And coming tvvo dayes after to the houſe of *Croſſes*, he ſlevv 6. or. 7. marchantes, and valiantly ſett the houſe on fyre, vvherin vvas burnt the value of 200. thovvſand ducats in marchandize. And ſo he retyred home againe tovvardes England, vvhere (not longe after for that he had giuẽ ſuch good proof of his dexteritie) it vvas determyned that

A terrible encounter.

he ſhould be employed againe, as being the fiteſt man to atchiue an enterprize of ſtealing. And therefore vvith ſhippes vvel furniſhed and prouided for his purpoſe, he vvas ſent foorth to attēd & lie in vvaite, for more of the Kinges, & his ſubiects treaſure. And in the ſouthe ſeas, on the back-ſyde of *America*, vvhere no pirates had bene before him, and therefore the leſſe prouiſion made to vvithſtand them, there he and his company, met vvith a ſhip in the porte of *Valparizo*, vvherin vvere but 8. Spaniardes, vvho taking the Engliſh for freindes, receyued them on boord, vvhere being once entred, they courageouſly tooke out of it 37. thouſand ducats in gold. And at another place called *Taurapaza*, they boldly ventred on ſhore vnto a Spaniard that lay a ſleepe, and had lying beſyde him the value of 4. thouſand ducats in 13. vvedges of ſiluer: all vvhich they ouercame & caried vavay, curteouſly leauing the Spaniard as thei found him. They ryfled alſo 12. ſhipes that lay at ancker, in the hauen of *Lyma*, and cutting all the ropes & cables, let thē driue vnto the ſeas. And in another ſhip called the *Cagafuego*, they found prerious ſtones, ie vvels, 80. poūd vvaight of gold, & 20. tonne of ſiluer: vvhereof hauing put themſelues in poſſeſsion, after ſome ſmaller pilferies, and ſacking of the tovvne of *Gnatulca*, M. Drake and his company, returned from this very hot and hardy ſeruice, & in the end, brought all this treaſure into Englād. VVhere he vvas ſo vvell vvelcome, and ſo liberall in the deuiſion of ſhares to ſome Courtiers, that notvvithſtanding the gallovves claimed his intereſt, it neuer gat ſo great a

brauado,

brauado. for in very despight of *Wapping*, he was at *Deptford* rewarded with the honor of knighthoode, and in the same ship, wherewith he had bene abrode a rouing.

And albeit that now and then, some poore pirate or other (throughe the importunate sute of the parties endomaged) haue bene cast away vpon wapping shore, yet was their sildome or neuer, any restitution made of the stolne goodes. Neither should such great mis-hap haue betyded those pirates, had not their chiefest offence bene, in stealing to litle. For M. Drake himself, and diuers other principal Captaines, haue bene much disgraced, at such tymes, as they returned home with small booties.

But this good successe of an il enterprize, gaue great desyre to the lyke attempt againe. And the new knight of the order of theuig, by the inequal deuisiō of shares, hauing had perhaps the least parte alloted vnto himself, was redy enoughe to vndertake it. And not longe after, he was sent forth with a greater number of men and shippes, wherewith he arryued at the Ile of *Spagnola*, and there sacked the towne of *S. Domingo*, and other places: where he cōmitted many barbarous cruelties, vpon religious men and women, and returning from *Carthagena*, tooke in his way sundry shippes, the people wher-of, he cast into the seas.

These continuall robberies, & spoiles made by the English, vpon the King of Spaine, & his subiects, in & about his Indies, grewe in the end to be so many and so ordinary, that euen the very remembrance that it was iniustice, and theeuery,

vvas

forgottē. And for their greater ſhame & cōfuſiō, they haue not letted to put downe many of their actions them ſelues in print, to the view of the world. And among others which for breuitie I muſt omitt, M. *Thomas Candiſh* in his letter to the lord *Chamberlaine* writeth, that he had nauigated all alongſt the coaſt of *Chili*, *Peru*, and *Nouaſpagna*. VVhere he made great ſpoiles, and burnt and ſunck 19. ſaile of Shippes, ſmall and great, and burnt and ſpoiled all the villages and townes, that euer he landed at: and that he tooke a ſhip of the Kinges at *Califorma*, wherein was the ſomme of * in treaſure, and ſomuch other coſtly wares, as he was not able to carie away: & therefore tooke all the treaſure, and ſett the ſhip with the other goodes on fyre. But I will here end theſe matters, & to auoyde prolixitie omitt ſundry of theſame kynde, which by very many haue bene put in practize. And albeit that euery one of thē, hathe not returned with lyke ſpoile, yet certaine it is, that there vvere neuer any weſterne voyages made from England, theſe many yeares paſt, but (howſoeuer they were in outward ſhewe diuulged) the very meere meaning & intention of thē all, was to robbe the king of Spaine or his ſubiects, of their Indian treaſure. In the continuāce whereof for ſo-many yeares toge ther, as the king neuer, attēpted any act of hoſtili tie, either againſt the Queene her dominions, or ſubiects, which no prince in the world could haue forborne to do, after ſo great prouocatiō: ſo the Engliſh on the otherſyde, did contrariwiſe deeme, that the to-many iniuries vvhich they had donne him, vvere al to fevv. And therefore they

*the ſome is omitted in the printed copie.

they reſolued to offend him much more, and in a farr more apparent and inexcuſable manner, in the ſight of all the world, then in any their former actions, howv manifeſt ſoeuer.

For vvhen the Archtraitor to his King, & deſtroyer of his country (the P. of *Orange*) was take out of the world, and the head-leſſe rebels of the Netherlãdes, firſt ſeeking patronage of the K. of *Denmarck*, after of the French king, & being by both thoſe iuſtly denied and reiected, the Engliſh, diſmaſking themſelues of all former vizardes and ſhadowes, did ouertly receyue them into their protection, to defend them in all open hoſtillitie, againſt their naturall and lawful ſoueraigne, the king of Spaine. And thereupon they reſolued, to put themſelues in poſſeſsion of ſundry the principall porte townes, and other places of thoſe partes. And by a printed declaration, went about by diuers weake and indirect reaſons, to iuſtifie that action: vvhereof amonge others, one was, in reſpect of the aunciẽt league betvvene the kinges of *England*, and the houſe of *Burgundie*, and the people of either of thoſe princes: as thoughe the Q. of England mighte by prerogatiue of that league, maintaine the ſubiects of the Netherlandes, againſt the King of Spaine, their ſoueraigne, & the chief Prince of the houſe of Burgundie.

An-other reaſon vvas, to the end the naturall people of the countrie, ſhould not be oppreſſed by ſtraungers, as thoughe the Engliſh, Scotiſh, Germaines, & others brought in by the States. were leſſe ſtraungers, then the Spaniſh.

But to confirme and make theſe reaſons more ſuf-

ſufficient, M. Norris vvas firſt ſent ouer to take poſſeſsion of certaine porte townes, fortes, and other places in Holland, and Zealand, and ſoone after the Earle of *Leiceſter* (whoſe experience in chamber woorck exceeded his practize in warr, and the L. *Audley*, the L. *VVilloughbie*, and the L. *Northe* & ſundrie other of name, came ouer with an army of 10. thowſand men, aſwell for the garniſons of the places now in their poſſeſsion, as alſo to come vnto the feild againſt the forces of the king of Spaine. And in what ſorte, the ſupplies of the garniſons in *Holland*, *Zealand*, *Brabant*, and *Flaunders*, haue ſince frō tyme to tyme bene continually maintained from England, as alſo the Engliſh troopes for the feild being preſently in our view and memorie, I will omitt the recytall.

And thus at the laſt, by this ouert entrance of the Engliſh into hoſtilitie, there was more manifeſt occaſion giuen vnto the king, to vſe the lyke againe, and to attempt that, whereunto no former iniuries could prouoke him. And the matter now coming to an opē warr on either ſyde, either party was to vſe his aduantage as he beſt could. *Che piglia piglia, & che non puo, ſuo danno.* And therefore omitting that which ſince hathe bene donne in thoſe partes, I will briefly touch the *Portugall* voyage, not in comparing it with the double faced actiōs before rehearſed, but as an ordinary expedition of warr.

It ſhalbe nedeleſſe to examine the righte, that *Don Anthonio* pretendeth to the crowne of that country, ſince it is ſoone anſwered in his illegitimation. VVhich being by M. Cecill diſpenſed withall

withall, albeit he be but vicar generall, and not the ſupreme head himſelf, requireth no further queſtion. *Don Anthonio* then, accompaigned with *Sir Iohn Norrice*, and *Sir Frauncis Drake*, departed from Englād with aboue 20. thouſand ſoldiers, and mariners: *Don Anthonio* with full reſolution to take poſſeſsion of *Portugall*, but M. *Drake*, with a farr other ſecret deſignement, which being vttred by him ſelf vnto the queene, I would be lothe here to repeat, were it not for feare, of leauing the reader in erronius ſuſpitiōs. M. *Drake* forſoothe, did promiſſe the Q. very cōfidently, to bring the king of Spaine to kiſſe her pantofle, or els to bring him, I know not to what woful lamentation But ſuch was the diſaſtrous effect of that iorney, that neither *Don Anthonio* obtained his expected kingdome, nor Captaine *Drake* would once enter on ſhore in Portugall to take the king of Spaine with him. VVhereof two mighty inconueniences haue enſued, the one is, that the realme of Portugall is ſtill poſſeſſed by the right owner: and the other, that the Queenes pantofle is yet vnkiſt, by the kinge of Spaine.

Neuertheleſſe, excepting ſome 2. or 3. thowſād, all the reſt of the ſoldiers and mariners, ſhewed more valour thē their leaders, for that they neuer returned back againe, but either remained ſtill in Portugall, or aboute that coaſt. It is further to be noted, that albeit in that voyage, they could not effectuate their deſyre againſt their enemyes, they did yet without partialitie ſo ſet vpon their freindes, that they ſeazed vpon 50. ſhippes of the Eaſterlinges which were bound to Spaine with

with marchandize, and caried thoſe away with them, and ſo returned home vnto *Plimouthe*. VVhere enen at their very landing, there hapned a more ſtrãg encounter, thẽ before in the whole iorney they had found. For the women of *Plimouth*, whoſe huſbandes by ill vſage were loſt in that voyage, being armed with diſtaues & other vnuſuall weapõs, without any reſpect vnto kingſhip, or knighthoode, began ſo fierſly to aſſault *Dõ Anthonio*, & *Drake*, that they were faine to defend them ſelues by force of legges. This voyage being thus ended, the progreſſe thereof was printed and publiſhed, both in Latin, and Engliſh. But the author thereof (in myne opinion) mighte well haue ſpared his paines, becauſe all mẽ manifeſtly knew without booke, what ſucceſſe theſaid voyage had had. VVhat ſithence hathe bene dõne, in the ſending of Shippes and forces towardes the *Terceraes* and els where, and the ſucceſſes thereof being ryf in our memorie, I will here omitt: and proceed to giue the reader ſuch ſatisfactiõ as the ſcope of the premiſſes haue directed me vnto,

Not withſtanding the manifold iniuries, donne by the Engliſh vnto the king of Spaine, where-of many haue here bene recyted, & the moſt of thẽ do lie opẽ to the view of the whole world, it is ſtrange, that they cannot yet conteyne their malice againſt him, within the limites of ciuill ſpeeches, who not only permitting euery hedgeminiſter, and cõtemptible perſon, to raile vpon him at his pleaſure, to make this baſe kynde of dealing more authenticall, haue not letted in the very preambles, and fore frontes of

ſundrie

ſundrie late proclamations, to note him to be *ambitious*, an *vſurper*, and a *Tyrant*: and in this later to call him, the only diſturber of the vniuerſall peace of Chriſtẽdome. VVhich vnſeemely & diſordered ſpeeches, dothe il beſeme the publike writinges of *Princes*, which ought to haue no affinitie with defamatorie libells. A thing which the King of Spaine, hathe euer deteſted to do againſt thẽ, or other his enemyes: who leaveth the directnes of his cauſe to ſuſtaine it ſelf, without the credit, which mighte be giuen thereunto by railing. *Of Nouẽber 1591.*

Let vs therefore now conſider, whether theſaid King hathe ſoughte the diſturbance of the ſtate of England, or of any other potentate or ſtate Chriſtian: or whether any may iuſtly complaine, that euer he hathe endeuored to patronize himſelf of, their crownes or countries, or to encroache or incorporate oughte of theirs vnto his, conſidering his incomparable greatneſſe, & the neere ſituation of his, and their dominions.

Let vs looke firſt into *Italy*, whether the territories of the *Church*, *Venice*, *Piemont*, *Florence*, *Genua*, or any other prince or ſtate els, have cauſe to cõplaine. Looke whether he hathe bene offenſiue to *Lorraine*, *Treuers*, *Cleue*, *Colẽ*, *Liege*, or to the *Eſterlinges*. Did not the realme of Portugall (next vnto him) ſtand in it ſelf, with all the iles and remote places, belonging to theſame, in all peace and ſecuritie, til by iuſt diſcent the tytle of all fell vnto him? and do not the people now liue vnder him (excepting the trooble they ſuſtaine by the Engliſh) in as great felicitie as euer they did vnder any their former princes? vvhat great

impudẽcie is it then, for any ſo palpably to be-lie him, in whome the cleane contrary (to their ſlaunderous reproches) is moſt euydẽt? & to the end, that the vniuſt calumnies of the aduerſary may be more apparent: let vs alſo conſider the Kinges procedinges, aſwell towardes ſome other Chriſtian princes, as to the Queene and realme of England in particular.

Anno. 1559. Firſt it is very manifeſt, that after his departure from the lowe countries, at which tyme he peaceably poſſeſſed thoſe, & the reſt of his kingdomes, and dominions: his firme reſolutiõ was, for the generall defence of Chriſtendome, to make warr againſt the Turk, and other Mahometaines. And to that end, he firſt vpon his peace made with Fraunce, called all his forces of Spaniardes and others, oute of Flaunders, and ſent them into Italy: and thence employed them, againſt the enemies of Chriſtianitie. Firſt at *Pinion de velis*, then to *Zerbi*, then to *La Racha*, and other places of Africa. And the Iſle of *Malta* being ſtrongly beſieged, & in very great perill to be loſt, he ſent thether a great army to ſuccor it, and defeated the forces of the *Turk*. He alſo prouided ſuch troopes, for the yeare enſuing (which he ſent thether vnder the conduct of the *Marquis of Piſcara*) that the *Turk* was forced to giue ouer, & leave his ſecond enterprize: albeit he came very ſtrongly prouided, for the taking thereof, & therein to recouer his honor, loſt the yeare before. And after all this, the king of *Spaine* for the more repoſe and tranquilitie of Chriſtendome, ioyned in league againſt the *Turk* with the *Pope*, & the *Venetians*, whereof followed the great

great victory, obtained by *Don Iohn de Austria* his generall, at *Lepanto*. These pointes albeit but briefly touched may serue for a demonstration of his princely resolution, to maintaine the concord of Christians, and to offend their comõ enemy. Yea the king of *Tunis*, being by the *Turk* expulsed, he restored him again vnto his kingdome.

But moste redy he was to giue aid and assistance, to Christian princes. VVhen being oppressed by the insolencie of their rebells, they desired his help: and amongst others, to the French king. Vnto whose ayd, he sent in the first troobles, 3. thowsand Spainardes, who were presente at the battaile of Dreux.

And afterward from the lowe countries, he sent the Counte of Mansfeild at two seuerall tymes, both with horse, and foote. He sent also, the Counte of Arenberg, the Baron of Erge, and diuers others, to assist the said king, at sundry tymes. All which forces, sent by the King of Spaine, from tyme to tyme into Fraunce, himself of his princely and liberall mynde, euer maintayned & payed at his owne charges. And there is nothing that more declareth his moderation, iustice, and equitie, towardes his Christian neighbours, then his sweete and Christianlyke demeanour, towardes the realme of Fraunce. VVhere neither, by the minorites of the late kinges, nor ciuill discentions of the subiects, he would take aduantage, to chalenge or encroache, any parte of that countrie. VVhereas yf he had bene so greedy and ambitious, as his aduersaries do bely him to bee, he would not haue omitted in so

many oportunities, to have chalenged all Frãce to hymſelf. VVho hathe at this preſent, the ſame right by his daughter, and farr more cleere, then had ſomtyme the noble prince, King *Edward* the third of England, thereunto. And yet as the world ſeeth, he neither thẽ, nor now, hath chalẽged any ſuch thĩg at all: & this is a ſingular praiſe and an eternall glory, to this moſt puiſſant prince of all ages, and in this tyme eſpecially to be maruayled at, that he attẽpteth nothing, nor wageth any warres, that are not iuſt, honorable, and allowed bothe by the lawes of God and man. And as touching the Queene of England, I will omitt ſome great and eſpeciall acts of amitie, ſhewed by himſelf vnto her, whẽ he was maried vnto her ſiſter, whereof her ſelf is not ignorant, but dothe beſt know them: And I will briefly relate ſome points before touched.

Firſt vpon the deceaſſe of Queene *Mary* his wyf, he gaue vnto this Queene al her Iewelles, which rightly appertayned vnto himſelf. And being aboute the concluſion of a peace with the Frẽch king, after the taking of S. Quintynes, he delt very inſtantly for the rendring of Calis vnto the Engliſh, inſomuch as vvithout the reſtoring thereof, he refuſed the accord, & ſtode ſo reſolute vpon this point, that in the end the French vvere faine to tell him, that albeit the Engliſh did ſolicite him to include the deliuery of Calis in his peace, yet had they ſecretly alredy cõcluded their peace with them, without that condition. And this was donne by a cloſe practize of M. Cecill, who ſent ouer one *Guido Caualcante* an Italian, to conclude it vvithoute the knowlege of the

Queenes

Queenes Ambaſſadors, vvho vvere there appoin ted to ſolicite it. VVhich extreme duble dealing, could not yet brede any auerſion in his mynde againſt the Engliſh, inſomuch, that after they began to fall from the doing vnto him, one iniu- rie in the neck of another, which ſtill encreaſed from a fewe to many, and from leſſer to greater: yet would he neuer begin any attempt againſt them, nor neuer make ſomuch as any ſhewe of any one acte of hoſtilitie whatſoeuer, vntill ſuch tyme as they came ſo farr, as to the very taking of his townes into their owne poſſeſsions, as is aforeſaid. VVhich is a moſt great and ſufficient argument, of his grounded affection vnto that Queene and countrie. For moſte rarely is it foūd, that any King or Prince could ſo continually diſgeſt and ouerſee, ſuch great vvronges and iniuries, as he hathe receyued from England: and much leſſe himſelf, that hathe greater meanes to reuenge them, then any other potentate lyuing in the world. And had doubtleſſe lōg ſince dōne it, had it not proceeded of a moſt ſingular affectiō vnto that Prince and people, & hope of redreſſe and amendment.

Thus much may ſerue to ſhewe, whether thē King of Spaine hathe ſoughte ſo many yeares to trooble the ſtate of England. But contrariwiſe, vvhether the ſtate of England hathe ſo long ſoughte the diſturbance of him, and almoſt of all other their neighbours, I leaue the reader to iud- ge by the premiſſes, & the cōfirmation of thoſe, I referr to the teſtimony of all the nations of Europe, to the end there may be a ſufficiēt num- ber of witneſſes, to check the extreme impuden-

In the late proclamatiõ.

of the malitious aduersary, who is not ashamed to say, that the repose of Christendom, by the king of Spaines vvarres, & by no other meanes, is now disturbed: which otherwise mighte come to an vniuersall peace. But as touching the vniuersall peace, yf it were to be such as this pacifier would prescribe it vnto him, I must needes confesse, that I do greatly doubte vvhether the king of Spaine would thereunto be perswaded: becawse in al-lykelyhode, it must be in this manner. First, that he should recall such forces, as of great compassion vnto the naturall people of Fraũce, he harhe sent thether to defend them, against a relapsed *Huguenote*, that vvould make them renegates from the faith, as himself is.

Conditiõs of an vniuersall peace.

Secondly, that he should suffer his rebells of Holland and Zealand, quietly to possesse the places they do hold, and to take vnto them all the rest of the low countries also: conditionally, that the English mighte still kepe the possession of such porte townes as they haue, & haue some half a dosen more annexed vnto them. Thirdly that the Englisch rouers, might peaceably go to his *Indies*, and there take away his treasure, and his Indies also. And these fewe aricles being thus accorded, then might *England Fraunce*, the *Netherlandes*, and *Germany*, be in farr better possibilitie, to extirpate the Catholyke religion in *Italy*, to bring the Moores into *Spaine*, & then to conclude that vniuersall peace, which passeth all vnderstanding: And include in the same, the great Turk the king of Fesse, and Marrocco, and other infidells, with whome England is alredy leagued.

And

And thus hauing declared ſundrie of the iniu ries, dõne by the Engliſh, vnto other princes and people, & eſpetially vnto the King of Spaine & his ſubiects, & alſo in what laudable, & moſt ho norable manner, the ſaid King hathe demeaned himſelf vnto thẽ, and other his Chriſtian neigh-bours: It ſhall now be neceſſary, to touch the pre ſẽt eſtate, wherein the realme of Englãd ſtãdeth. The which for the better intelligẽce of the reader I will reduce into fower pointes, and in con-cluſion, it ſhall manifeſtly appeere, vvhether ſome fewe perſons accuſed, or their chiefeſt accuſer, are or is the cauſe, of the preſent and expected calamities of England.

The firſt ſhalbe, touching matters of faith and religiõ, wherein there was neuer ſuch great and wonder-full confuſion.

The ſecond, touching exterior enemyes, whereof the realme had neuer ſomany nor none ſo puiſant.

The third, of the ſundry competitors for the crowne, and the vncertainty of the ſucceſſor.

The fourth and laſt ſhall concerne the ouerthrow of the Nobilitie, and the generall oppreſſion of the people.

THE realme of Englãd hathe at ſũdry tymes bene ſubiect, to diuers great moleſtations, aſwell throughe ciuil diſſentiõ, as inuaſions, and forreyne warres. And howſoeuer the vviſdome of the vvriter of the late Proclamatiõ, hath ouer-much preſumed vpõ the readers ignorance, in ex toling the cõtinuall peace & tráquillitie of Eng-lãd, yet yf the preſent ſtate thereof be rightly loo ked into, it wilbe foũde to exceede all former af flictiõs what ſoeuer. And firſt for matters of reli

gion, let vs consider what they are come vnto. The *Protestantized Caluinisme* being but of 33. yeares antiquitie, and peculiarly chosen and compounded of many, and fully agreeing with none, is now growen vnto such diuision in it self, as is very wonderful: and being established by aucthoritie of a Parlamentall synode, and aduanced vnto the highe tytle, of the glorious Gospell of Christ, hathe not yet bene able so fewe yeares, to retaine that credit and esteeme, but is growen cõtemptible, detected of Idolatry heresy, and many superstitious abuses, by a purified sorte of professors of the same Gospell. And this contention is yet become more intricate, by reasõ of a third kynde of Gospellers called *Brownistes*. VVho being directed by greater feruor of the vnholy ghoste, do expressly affirme, that the *Protestanticall* Church of Englãd, is not gathered in the name of Christ, but of Antichrist, & that it woorshipeth not God truly, but after a fals & idolatrous manner: and that yf the Prince or magistrate vnder her, do refuse or defer to reforme the Churche, the people may without her consent, take the reformatiõ into their owne hãdes. Yea, and that the ministry yf their ensue not reformation, may for some causes excomunicate the Queene. And one *VVillam Hacket*, affirming that he had within him the very soule of our Sauior, did send his two prophets to depose her. Into such termes, is the vnitie of the Gospell now come, insomuch, that there was neuer more bitter, and vehement writing, betwene any *Catholikes & Heretykes*, then of late there hathe bene betwene the professors of one same Gospell.

In the cõfutation of Brovvnisme.

Whose

VVhoſe falſe faith is not only detected in their owne woordes and writinges, ſcoffed at, and turned by themſelues into a fooles cote: but confirmed in the euill lyues and conuerſations, of theire very miniſters. And yet notwithſtanding their manifeſt treaſonable attẽpts, diſſention in religion, & practize of euill lyf, the whole force and rigor of perſecution is bent againſt the Catholykes, whoſe great vertue, modeſty, and patience, do the manifeſte in them a farr differẽt ſpirite from the others. They neuer diſcharged piſtoles, nor yet threwe daggers at preachers in there ſermons in this Queens tyme, as did the others in the dayes of Queene *Mary*. Neither haue they entred into Churches and wounded *Miniſters* at *Seruice*, as one of them did a *Prieſt* at *Maſſe* in the tyme of the ſaid Queene. Nor yet during the raigne of the Queene that now is, haue they cõmitted any violent actes in Churches, as Puritaines haue not letted to do in her owne chapell, by ouerthrowing, & caſting dowe the ornamẽts thereof, euen in diſpight of her. Neither haue they attempted to murther any principall perſon of her *Court*, as did *Burchewe*, in wounding a Gentleman in ſtede of Sir *Chriſto pher Hatton*: but haue ſuffred with exceding patience, the greateſt iniuries, vexations, & barbarous vſage, that fleſh and bloud is able to endure. Only puritaines are tolerated to ſay, do, & write what they liſt: be it either in flat deniall of the Supremacie, or other rebellious actions: & theſe they can excuſe by ſome deuice or other, or els they can call with full exclamation, *Dimitte nobis Barabam*, but againſt Catholykes only they

At Paules croſſe.

At vveſtminſter.

M. Haukins.

cry, *Nos legem habemus*, and *Crucifige Crucifige* Neither had *VVilliã Hacket* bene excuted for his blaſphemy or treaſon, yf he had not opẽly before ſo many people, pronounced the Queens depoſition. And ſeeing that ſo many barbarous lawes, as with great diligence and all extremitie, haue theſe many yeares bene vſed, could nether extinguiſh the Catholyke partie at home, nor ruyne the *Semenaries* abrode which more & more haue encreaſed, not by force of armes, but by euydent truthe: To giue the more colour vnto a more cruell perſecution, the very author of all preſent and future miſchiues, dothe ſeeke by imaginarie feares, to drawe mennes conſiderations from greater calamities and miſeries, and to turne the hatred which himſelf hathe deſerued, vpon a fewe poore Prieſtes and Ieſuites, by publiſhing that they are ſent into the realme, to perſwade men to aſsiſt the King of Spaine in an intended inuaſion, whereas they are not otherwiſe ſent, but to exerciſe their prieſtly office and function, as they govnto the Indies, & other places where the exerciſe of their religion is alſo prohibited.

Neither are they in their *Seminaries* otherwiſe exerciſed, then in other *Scooles* and *Colleges*: as are alſo the *Germaines* & other nations, in their *Seminaries* in *Roome* and els where: which is not of their countrymẽ falſely and malitiouſly ſaid to be in treaſon and ſedition, as England only, & no place els dothe proclame.

And it is wounderfull to conſider, that notwithſtãding the odious clamours of treaſonable practizes daily raiſed againſt theſe men: it is well

well knowne, that ſome of their greateſt perſecutors haue not letted, to offer free libertie and ſecret protections vnto prieſtes, *to reconcyle Catholykes*, to ſay *Maſſe*, to heare *Confeſsions*, and to do ſuch lyke offices appertaining to their function, where, and to whome they liſted: conditionally, that they ſhould afterward diſcouer vnto thē in what places, & with what perſons they had bene. Yea they haue not letted to appoint ſome of their ſpies to go to confeſsion, of purpoſe to apprehend and betray their ghoſtly fathers. Such is the impious treacherie of the aduerſaries, that will not lett to vrge men to the breach of their owne lawes: which argueth, that it is not ſinceritie and zeale of religion that they ſtand vpon, when they will directly apoint the contrary vnto theirs to be exercyſed, as alſo, that themſelues do litle feare ſuch treaſons, as they pretend to be wrought by prieſtes, when they ſeke to lycence them, and not to prohibite them: which proueth alſo, that themſelues do well know, that Catholikes are exercyſed in the offices of their religiō, & not in practizes of treaſon as they vntruly reporte.

Cecill & other his inſtruments.

And yet for confirmation of the ill opiniō they do labor to make the people to haue of them, the *Archpolitike* hathe fraudulently prouyded, that when any Catholike or Prieſt is araigned, the enditemēt is euer farced with many odious matters, as of conſpiratie, killing the Queene, ſtiring the ſubiects to rebellion, drawing them from their obedience, & the lyke: & yet when they come to proofes, they can proue nothing in the world, but only that he is Prieſt, or hathe relieued prieſts

and

and nothing els being witn:ſſed, and ſomtymes that not knowne neither, but by the prieſtes, or other parties owne confeſsion, the *Iury* crieth guilty to all the endytement, and the whole endi tement is enroled, as yf the party had bene iuſtly conuicted of all that therin is conteyned. And vpon this do they ſo impudently reporte, that none haue beene condẽned but for treaſõ, as they ſay their enditementes do ſhew in the recordes. VVhereas yf they had recorded no more then had beene prooued, as in all law and iuſtice they were bound, they ſhould not finde any one prieſt (*Ballard* only excepted) that euer had any imagination of treaſon prooued againſt him. And notwithſtanding all the aforeſaid enfarced treaſons & conſpiracies, it is cõmonly ſeene, that almoſt at euery araignment and execution, Catholikes are offred their liues & liberties, yf they will but go to the Churche: which doubtleſſe can be no ſatisfactiõ for any temporall treaſon, but only for matters of religiõ. VVhereof no mã of any vnderſtanding can remaine ignorant, except ſuch as was the wiſe gentleman, that told a freind of his that he had ſeene a Prieſt executed, that letted not at the very tyme of his death, to cõmitt *Highe treaſon*: and being aſked what it was, anſwered that he began to ſay his *Pater noſter* in *Latin*. Is it poſsible quoth the other? I aſſure you quoth this partie, it is out of all doute, for he begã to ſay it before a multitude of witneſſes and would haue ſaid it vnto the end, but that as hap was, the hangman was redy to diſpatche him, before he had half donne. This diepe concei ted perſon, and ſuch as was his compagnion, will

without any great ſcruple belieue the proclamation, in ſaying that none are put to death for religion, but for treaſon. And the aduerſary in ſomuch labouring to detaine from Catholikes, the deſerued honor and glory of the cauſe for which they ſuffer, dothe thereby proclame his owne iniquitie and iniuſtice, to all the world, making that to be new *Treaſon*, which is nothing els but old faith and religiō. A thing as repugnat vnto common ſence, as yf the *Pope* ſhould make murther, theſte, or extorſion to be *Hereſy*. Yet ſuch is his great and abſurd impudēce, that there is no treaſon that ſeemeth greater, nor no crime more vnpardonable in England, then there to be a Catholike, nor yet any offence ſo ſeuerely puniſhed. There was neuer *Scythian*, nor ſauage *Tartar*, that could vſe more inhumaine cruelty then to rip vp the bodies of innocent men, being perfectly aliue, to teare out their entrailes, to be conſumed with fyre. There was neuer *Turk*, nor *Barbarian*, that impoſed vpon *Chriſtians* ſo great and continuall a tribute, as twenty poundes, for euery eight-and-twentie dayes abſence, from their *Moſkeyes*. Nor there were neuer *Arrians*, or other ennemyes, ſince the generall perſecutions of the *Romaine Emperors*, that more vexed, ſpoiled impriſoned, and tortured Catholikes, then dothe now the ſtate of England. And thus haue I abreuiated vnto the reader, a huge volume of the preſent lamentable ſtate of religion.

The yeare deuyded into 13. monethes.

TOuching the ſecond point, concerning the nūber of exterior enemyes, how might the caſe be other with England, then now it is, ſeeing that during the continuance of thirtie and three

yeares,

yeares, they neuer ſent foorth any one ſoldier, nor neuer drew ſwoord in any iuſt quarrel, or honorable action. They neuer ſought to endomage the Turk, the comon enemy of Chriſtendome, nor neuer defended any lawful prince or King in all the world: But haue inuented, & proſecuted, the moſt diſhonorable, inglorious, vniuſt, and tyranicall actions, that euer were practized by any Chriſtian ſtate.

VVhen the Queene of *Scotland* was in her owne realme, and they acknowleged her for the lawful prince of that countrie, did they giue aid vnto her, or vnto her rebells? In the tymes of *Frauncis*, *Charles*, and *Henry*, the late Kinges of *Fraunce*, was their aſsiſtance giuẽ to thẽ whome they knew to be lawful Kinges, or to their rebells? and as for the ſuccour they do now giue vnto *Nauarr* & his *Huguenotes*, it is no otherwiſe then it was before, when they acknowleged thẽ to be rebells. In this long rebellion in the low countries, whether haue they taken parte with the King their old cõfederate, or with *Orange* & the other rebells? whẽ *Sebaſtian* king of Portugal warred with the Mahometaines of Africa, gaue they ayd vnto the Chriſtiãs, or vnto the infidells?

And ſince in the realme of *Portugall*, gaue they helpvnto the lawfull prince, or to the baſtard his rebell? In the warres of *Colen*, did the Engliſh ſuccur the lawfull Biſhop, or the vnlawfull depoſed apoſtata? And yf weſhal looke into ſea matters, ſee who it is, that hathe ſet vp a publike piracie, to ſpare neither freind, nor foe. Aſke the *Spaniſh*, the *Frẽch*, the *Scottiſh*, the *Flemiſh*, the *Haũce townes*, yea the *Indies*, and further partes of the earth,

earth, who they are, that do ſo cõtinually robbe and ſpoile thẽ. Yf the Engliſh had but only procured the king of Spaine to be their enemy, they needed not to haue ſoughte any others: for neither England, nor any other Chriſtian country els, hathe euer had any ſo gteat. And as they haue made eſpetiall choiſe of the enmitie of the greateſt, ſo haue they employed the tyme of 33. yeares to deſerue it.

And as for the King of Scotland, albeit he do diſſemble amõg many leſſe iniuries, one ſo great, as the cutting of of his owne mothers head, yet ſome of his owne nation, being of good intelligence, haue ſaid vnto ſtraungers in defence of their Kinges honor: that albeit they of England haue cut of the head of his mother, he muſt not therefore by vn-tymely reuenge, cut him-ſelf from the poſſibilitie of that crowne. But hauing once obtained theſame, he will then fall to the cutting of of the heades of thoſe, that aſſented to that action: and to the confiſcatiõ of their landes and goodes, therewith to reward his freindes & followers: and ſo demonſtrate vnto the world, that he could politikely chuſe a tyme conueniẽt to diſcharge ſuch duty, as is incident vnto the honor and reputation of a King.

And touching Fraunce, albeit that by the death of the three late Kinges, the iniuries dõne vnto them cannot be by them remembred, yet the people of the realme, that were participãt of the wrõges, are ſtill lyuing: in whome the deſyre of reuenge, is of late newly reuyued, throughe the aſsiſting of the *Huguenote* of *Nauarr*, their capitall enemy, but not their lawfull King.

And

And laſt of all, which of al other is the greateſt, there extreme enmitie with the chief Biſhop, & paſtor of Gods Churche. VVhereof enſueth their general diſcord with all the Catholike Chriſtiãs of the world.

Thus the realme of England, being brought into breach of amitie, not only with the Churche of God, but with all their old alies and freindes, yf we now conſider with whome they are ioyned in true freindſhip, we ſhal fynde them to be ſo fewe as none at all, ſince they haue neither ſpared, to offend freind nor foe. But yf we looke what new confederates they haue choſen, in ſtede of the old, we ſhall ſee them to be the great *Turk*, the kinges of *Feſſe*, *Marocco*, and *Algiers*, or other *Mahometains* and *Moores* of *Barbarie*, all profeſſed enemies to *Chriſt*. Againſt whome, ſome of the moſt noble and famous kinges of England, went in perſon with great armies, & obtained ſuch victories, as will for euer recomend their glorie to all poſterities. They are alſo in league with a fewe *Bere-bruers*, and *Baſketmakers* of *Holland*, and *Zealand*, with a company of *Apoſtataes*, and *Huguenotes* of *Fraunce*, & with their feed pẽſioner, the *Chaũcelor* of *Scotlãd*, who by abuſing of the King, hath gotte credit to woork his ruyne. And the Engliſh thus leagued with *infidells*, *heretikes*, and *rebells*, cannot yet preſume of any true trindſhip of them in their hartes. For the French albeit they be *Huguenotes*, yet are they ſtill French vnto the Engliſh, and as heretofore, ſo euen of late they haue ſhewed themſelues vnto ſuch, as were ſent from England to aſsiſt them. The ſtates of *Holland*, and *Zealand*, yf they could

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poſsibly thurſt out the Engliſhe, they would not let to do it. And it is well knowne, that ſome of them of chiefeſt auctoritie haue ſecretly concluded and reſolued, either preſently vpon the Queenes deceaſſe, or ſo ſoone as any oportunitie ſerueth, to bring all their forces together to attempt it.

The freindſhip of *Scotland*, although it haue coſt many Engliſhe angels, yet will it prove Scotiſh in the end. And the great *Turk* and his conſorts, may be by the Engliſh excited to inuade ſome partes of Chriſtendome, neere vnto them adioyning (as alredy vpon ſuch perſwaſiō they haue attempted) but good vnto England they can do none, albeit the Engliſh would exchāge their *Geneua Bible*, for the *Turkiſh Alcorā*, becauſe their ſituations are to farr diſtant. But how ſo-euer their new freindes may congratulate with them, their old alies may rather reioyce in hauing their enmitie, then their amitie. For that by the vnhappy and miſchieuous endes, of ſomany of their late confederates, it is obſerued that to be in league with Englād, is *malū omē*. Et for proof thereof, I will aleadge ſome examples.

Firſt the Earle of *Arren* in *Scotland*, after that he had by the eſpetiall ſuggeſtion of the Engliſh, proſecuted the rebellions and diſſentions in his countrie, became diſtracted of the vſe of reaſon, and hathe theſe 30. yeares remayned madd.

The Earle of *Murray*, baſtard brother to the Scotiſh Queene, was ſlaine with an harquebuſhe, in the towne of *Lythquo*.

The Earle of *Lenox* was ſtabbed with daggers,

The Earle of *Marr* was poyſoned.

The Earle of *Murton* behedded: All which were regents and gouernours of the realme, and ſett vp by the Engliſh. For I will omit recytall of diuers other Lordes, and gentlemen, that followed their factions, whoſe endes alſo were violēt: Beſydes the great nūbers that haue periſhed in diuers battailes.

In Fraunce, the Prince of *Coundie* was ſlaine at the battaile of *Iarnac*.

The *Admirall Shatilian*, maſſacred at *Parris*, with mumbers of his conſorts.

The *Cardinall* of *Shatilian* his brother, was poyſoned in *England*.

The Counte of *Mountgomery*, behedded.

Monſieur the Duke of *Aniow*, brother to the late King, died of an extraordinary ſickneſſe, ſuppoſed to be poyſoned.

And what end the laſt *French King* came vnto, is manifeſt enough. As alſo that *Lanowe*, being ioyned with the Engliſh forces in *Britany*, was there ſlaine.

And to what end *Nauarr* ſhall come (being as firmly leagued with the Engliſh as were the others) is yet to be expected.

In the low *Countries*, the Counte of *Lumay* before mentioned, that ſurpriſed the towne of *Briel*, and had bene the murtherer of ſome hundreths of Prieſts, being bitten in the arme by an Engliſh dogg of his owne, died mad & raging, in the towne of *Liege*.

The Prince of *Orange*, that could neither be warned by the infortunate endes, of three of his owne bretheren, *Henry*, *Adolf*, & *Lodowick*, nor by

one

one or two attẽpts made vpon his owne perſon, was laſtly ſlaine with a piſtol in the towne of *Delf*, in Holland.

THe third calamitie whereunto England is brought, is of the vulgar multytude vnſene, becauſe it is yet of them vnfelt. And that is, the great confuſion, of ſo many competitors to the crowne, bothe within, & without the realme. VVhich muſt nedes prognoſticate ſuch ſlaughter & cruell murthers, as neuer were in that, nor in any other country, for ſuch quarrell. VVhen the crowne of England was in contention only, betweene the two howſes of *Yorck*, and *Lancaſter*, how lõg it laſted, how many of the bloud Royal & Nobilitie loſt their lyues, and what great nũbers of thowſandes were ſlaine, the hiſtories of thoſe dayes can declare. But farr greater extremities are we now to expect, among ſo many domeſticall, and ſome externe competitors. Euery one of which, thinking himſelf to be iuſtly the firſt, cã aleage many cauſes for the excluſion of the others. And therefore in all lykely hoode, each one of thoſe, that liue within the realme & Ile, will not forbeare hereafter to attempt by what meanes he may, to preferr himſelf, and to depreſſe the others. For the crowne remayning among ſo many in equall ballance, and each almoſt in lyke poſsibilitie, who of them is it, that will not dare to aduenture the vttermoſt of his meanes, for the gayning of no leſſe a thing, then is the kingdome of England? And what auctoritie of any diſſolued councel ſhal prohibite any of the competitors to attempt the ſame vpõ, the dereaſſe of the Queene? VVhat great apparẽce is

there then, of the effusion of the blood of many thowsands, & to what desolation is the realme lyke to be brought? how fayned will then this present seeming peace be foūde, whē it shall conclude in such intricate mortall warres?

And how infinite wilbe the cursinges, and maledictions of all sortes of people, vpon him that hathe caused it, whē it shall appere vnto thē, that as he neuer sought to cōserue thē in peace during the Queenes lyf, so he neuer mēt but to leave thē in warres after her death? At what tyme he may reioyce as once did the tyrāt *Nero*, to see the citie burne, which himself had set on fyre. And how soone this great quarrel shalbe begun, is as vncertaine, as the thing that each howre is to be expected. Seeing it dependeth vpō the only lyf of the Queene, wherof there is as litle assurance, as of the lyf of any other mortall creature: and her deceasse so-much the nearer, in that she is now declyning in age.

TO come vnto the fourth & last parte, cōcerning the ouer-throwe of the Nobilitie, and the great and generall oppression of the people: it is first to be considered, that albeit the vniust molestations of other comon-wealths, and the oppressions and cruelties vsed within the realme, were bothe by M. *Cecill* begū & prosecuted, yet hathe he so cuningly disposed very many of his affaires, into the handes of other principall actors (especially since the death of his brother *Bacon*) that very oftē tymes, his owne plottes & inuentions have seemed the practizes of others. Of these his actors, the late Earle of *Leicester*, & the secretary *Walsingham*, were the chiefest. The former

former of the twaine, for that he had in his youth, by ouermuch attending his pleasures, neglected the obseruation of many secretes, which M. *Cecill* practized out of *Machiauill*: yet in the end, he did in fewe yeares profit somuch, and so recouer his negligences past, as that he soone grewe old in iniquitie: and lefte no mischief vnattempted how abhominable so euer. And at the last (as it seemeth) euen by the iust iudgement of God, the same day seuē night, that he had caused diuers *Priestes* and other *Catholikes*, to be cruelly murthered in diuers places, within and without the citie of *London*, he sickned: and as it is thoughte was poisoned, and preuented by one, whome himselfhad thought by such meanes to haue dispatched, he died without any signes of a Christian, more lyke a dogg then a man, & being dead, was as vgly a corse, as he was filthy in manners in his lyf: and in his stomack, were great holes eaten throughe with the poyson. His lādes were presently ceased vpon, for his debtes vnto the *Queene*, whereby he was as much disgraced, as yf he had rather bene hated, then fauoured of her.

And he that but late before, seemed to cary in himself the very glory of the realme, and that in his lyf tyme was feared of many, thoughe loued of none: was no sooner dead, but iustly condēned of all. Yea exclamed on, curſed and banned to all mischief, by all the people of the land: who generally reioyſed, that so wicked a monster was dead.

And albeit that toward his later dayes, hee became the only patrone of the purest professors of

the Goſpell: yet immediatly after his death, a freind of his beſtowed vpon him this *Epitaphe*.

Heere lies the Woorthy Warrier,
That neuer bloodied ſwoord:
Heere lies the loyall courtier,
That neuer kept his Woord.
Heere lies his noble excellence,
That ruled all the ſtates.
Heere lies the Earle of Leiceſter,
VVhome earth, and heauen hates.

The Secretary *Walſingham*, a moſt violent perſecutor of Catholikes, died almoſt in lyke manner, neuer ſomuch as naming God in his laſt extremities, and yet he had bothe ſpeech and memorie, as he ſhewed by telling the preacher that he heard him, and therefore hee needed not to crie ſo loude, and theſe were his laſt woordes: and in the end, his vryne came foorth at his mouth, and noſe, with ſo odious a ſtench, that none could endure to come neere him. And not withſtanding his great credit and auᵭthoritie, he died a begger, and more indebted, then his landes could ſatisfy, and hathe lefte no fame of vertue behynde him.

Theſe twaine, and ſundry other inferior inſtrumentes, being gon to render an accompt of their infynite euills, & the ſame impious courſe of proceeding ſtil continued, & daily encreaſing from ill to woors, dothe plainly manifeſt vnto the world, who it is, that hathe bene the author and ſupporter of all miſchief, & conſequẽtly the direct occaſioner, of whatſoeuer inconueniẽces, the realme of England dothe preſently ſuſtaine, and what diſtreſſes, miſeries, perills, or, dangers,

it is

it is threatned hereafter to ſuffer. VVhereunto it ſeemeth, he is bent with a very full reſolution, to hazard and bring it.

And touching the preſent eſtate of the Nobilitie, wherewith the ſtately courtes of former princes were adorned, their armies in the feild conducted, the comons of the countrie by their great hoſpitalitie relieued, look whether they are not brought vnto that ſeruilitie, that yf they apply not themſelues to *Cecils* humour, they muſt not liue in their countries, but be tyed vnto the courte, or alotted their dwelling, as yf they were his perpetuall wardes? yea rather as pupils, that are kept vnder with roddes, not daring to ſpeake what they think and know: but are ſet to be ayme-giuers, while others do hitt their marckes. Some of them, he hathe vndeſeruedly brought into the diſfauor of the prince. Sundry he hathe drawne vpon fained fauours of the courte, to conſume themſelues to beggery. Others he hathe ſent foorth, to become pirates and ſea-rouers. And the lyues of ſome of the principall, by guyleſull pretended crymes he hathe taken away, & by one meanes or other, he hathe brought ſuch as be yet lyuing into thoſe termes, that none may be permitted to cary any credit in the comon-welth, except it be ſome very fewe, whoſe wiſdomes he can eaſely ouerrule. By which meanes, there is no ſubiect in England of more opulence, none of more authoritie, nor none of more power, then himſelf: and therefore none to withſtand his entended matche, betweene the Lady *Arbella*, and his grandchild. VVhereby England may happen to

haue a King *Cecill* the firſt, that is ſuddainly meta morphoſed frō a grome of the wardrobe, to the wearing of the beſt robe within the wardrobe.

Concerning the generall oppreſsion of the people, it is no leſſe, but rather more lamentable thē the ouerthrowe of the nobilitie: in aſmuch, as it tendeth to an vniuerſall diſtruction of the whole body of the realme. The Lyftenantes and Iuſtices of ſhires, who are reputed to liue in beſt credit in their countries, are no more but the ſubiects of purſuiuants, catchpoles, & promoters, and muſt night and day be redy, to waite and attend at euery call, of this vile and abiect ſorte of people. But the meaner gentlemen and comons, are brought vnto the greateſt ſlauiſhneſſe, and miſery, that euer any free borne people haue liued in. VVhich whoſo ſhall rightly cōſider, ſhall eaſely perceaue, whether England hathe theſe 33. yeares enioyed peace and tranquillitie, as it is impudently reported to haue dō. For yf we firſt look what often & generall muſters haue bene made, what preſsinges, and ſending foorthe of men, what prouiſion, chopping, changing, & conſuming of armour, munitiō, artillery, & pouder, ſince the firſt yeare of the Queenes raigne: we ſhall fynde it to giue ſmall proof of a continuall peace.

As the E. of Darby & others

Let vs call to remembrance what troopes of men haue at ſundry tymes beene ſent into Scotland, what forces almoſt yearely into Ireland, what infynite numbers into the low countries, and continued with dayly ſupplies, how many thouſandes into Fraunce and Britany, what an huge army into Portugall, beſydes all the braue

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men and mariners consumed in sundry voyages or piracies by sea, sent foorth to seeke new habitations in *Virginia*, and by one such meanes or other made away: and we shall fynde the number to be farr greater, then any King of England hathe employed within or without the realme in any his honorable warres. And yf any man should think, that al these troopes haue bene but set forthe in May-games, he may call to memorie that their coming home againe declared it not.

Let vs also cõsider, what great numbers of pore women are often tymes lefte in misery, & with their childrẽ to pyne at home in famyne, whyle their husbandes are sent foorth in forreyne warres: & how-many by this meanes are become widowes, and their childeren fatherlesse. And further, what great trooble and vexatiõ generally all artificers, farmers, and husbandmen are put vnto by attending and following so many generall musters: wherein are also, diuers great and foule abuses comitted. VVhat infinite numbers of freholders, yeomen, and others (diuers of thẽ being charged with wyf and familie) are pressed & sent foorth of the realme vnto the warres of forein parts, contrary to the lawes of the coũtrie, by the which it is prouyded that none ought to be pressed, but only to defend the realme, or to recouer some lost patrimony of the crowne: whereof it is not knowne that either *Spaine*, *Portugall*, the lowe *countries*, or the *Indies* euer were. And yet so exceeding great haue bene the multytudes of men, that by compulsiõ haue these late yeares bene sent vnto those partes, that (being well employed) they might haue conque

red whole kingdomes: and not withſtãding this great iniuſtice and iniury donne vnto them, whẽ in theſe ſeruices and euill actions they haue loſt their lyues, they are rewarded with infamy after their deaths, euen by thoſe, that conſtrained them thereunto, and moſt contemptibly called the ſcum & raſcallitie of the countrie, whereof it is happely deliuered. And ſuch as after the great miſeries (which comonly they do ſuſtaine) do returnẽ home againe into England, they haue by the very report of being *Soldiers*, purchaſed the hatefull names of *rogues* & *vagabondes*: & being for want of payment, brought vnto pouertie & nakedneſſe, are made ſubiect vnto the conductiõ and puniſhement, of euery beadle & catchpole: and laſtly euen for very trifles, to the fynall diſpatch of the hangman. VVhat a moſt vile and hatefull vſage is this, to men of any valor? and how intolerable to be borne by any that beareth in his breſt the harte and courage of a ſoldier, or hathe euer bene conducted by a captaine in the feild? what wrong and iniury can be greater to any one that retayneth the ſhape of a man? or how is it poſsible for any Engliſh ſoldier to endure it, or for any other to extend it vnto him except this only naturall enemy to all men of armes? that could neuer abyde that euer any man of ſeruice, capitaine, ſoldier, or perſon of braue ſpirite, ſhould be rewarded but with reproche & miſery: whoſe condition and ſtate of lyf is in all countries in the world moſt honorable, and was neuer made ſlauiſh in England before England came vnto a *Cecilian* gouernment.

Thus rewardeth he thoſe whome himſelf em-

ployeth

ployeth to his owne purpoſe, in the loſſe and hazarding of their lyues. And yf we ſhall now conſider, what infynite numbers of the inhabitants of the land he hathe by one meanes or other cõſumed, & dayly entendeth to cõſume, we might iuſtly feare, that this his courſe continuing, he would in tyme bring the realme to be a Republike of *Amaſones*, yf he had not alredy drawne into it treble as many ſtrangers, as King *VVilliam* the cõqueror planted therein after his ſubduing theſame, wherewith himſelf (as it ſeemeth) doth meane to erect and fortify his new imagyned kingdome.

Let vs alſo conſider the great decay of Trafike, that of late yeares the countrie is brought vnto, whereby not only many principall marchantes, which were wont to tranſport great riches and comodities to the realme, are become banckruptes, and ſundry of them enforced to turne their trade of marchandize into meere piracie, but alſo diuers whole townes are decayed, & the people compelled to beg, that before were honeſtly ſuſtained by the trade of clothing.

VVhat ſhould I ſpeake of the generall abuſes of the realme, ſince they are ſo great, and ſo infynite.

There were neuer ſo many ſutes in lawe, nor there was neuer leſſe redreſſe of wronges.

The lawe is exempt from Iuſtice, and all cauſes are gouerned by bribes and partialitie.

Conſcyence is leaſt accompted of, aud cooſinage is *in ſummo gradu*.

The priſons were neuer in any princes daies ſo full of debtors, and malefactors.

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The highe wayes were neuer ſo repleniſhed with thieues & robbers, & yet were there neuer ſomany executed for ſtealing.

There were neuer ſuch numbers of beggers in all partes of the realme, and except lawyers & vſurers, very fewe mē are furniſhed with mony.

But it is a woonder to conſider, what great & grieueous exactions, haue from tyme to tyme bene generally empoſed vpon the people, as all the *Lones*, the *Lottery*, *gathering* for the ſteeple of Paules, newe *impoſtes* and *cuſtomes* of wynes, clothes, and other marchandize, *forfaictures*, and *confiſcations* of the goodes of Catholikes, *forced benevolences* for the ſucouring of rebellious bretherē, huge maſſes of mony raiſed by *priuy ſeales*, and laſt of all, the great number of *ſubſidies*, which haue bene more in the tyme of this Queene, thē thoſe that haue beene leuyed by diuers of her predeceſſors, and do amount to many *millions* of *poundes*: & yf all theſe do not lie hoorded vp in the Queenes cofers, the Lord *Trecherer* I truſt cā giue her maieſtie and the realme good accomptes of them, in books and papers. But in the meane while, the comons are brought vnto comon beggery, and by the continued and intended exactions, they are lykely to be daily more oppreſſed then other. Infynite are the domeſticall miſeries that he hathe deliuered the realme vnto, & moſt infamous hath he made the Engliſh name and nation abrode, for vice, for cruelty, for vnfaithfulneſſe and breach of all lawes with their freindes and confederates. *In Fraunce*, they are counted Churche-robbers, bloody, and vnmerciful, in *Portugall*, diſordered and foole-hardie, of

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all nations in generall, the pyrates of euery ſea the ſowers of ſedition in all countries, the maintainers of all rebellions, and the only Butchers & perſecutors of innocent prieſtes, and Catholikes, that peaceably liue vnder their ſubiection.

Behold then good reader into what condition, the late ſo goodly and flowriſhing eſtate of England in a fewe yeares is brought, & how iuſtly it may be ſaid to be bleſſed with peace and tranquillitie in regard of former ages.

Call to remẽbrance, in what amitie that realme was with other countries, at the Queenes entrãce to the crowne, & thoſe likewiſe at the ſame tyme one with another: which mighte happely haue continued for many yeares together, yf the vnhappy enemy of Chriſtian cõcord had not bene the only let and hindrance, & as neither the princes of Fraunce or Scotland, notwithſtanding their great moleſtatiõs by the Engliſh, did neuer attempt any reuenge: no more did the King of Spaine make any ſhewe of hoſtillitie againſt them, albeit the iniuries don by them vnto him, without intermiſſiõ haue bene lõgeſt cõtynued: inſomnch, that the Engliſh haue ſcarſly left him or his ſubiects, any countrie of quiet habitation, but diſturbed thẽ in *Spaine*, in Portugall, in *Italy*, and in the *Indies*, & letted not to robbe & ſpoile them, in all partes of the occean and mediteraneã ſeas. And hauing for the ſpace of twẽty yeares together aſsiſted the rebelles of the lowe countries, and laſtly in the open viewe of the world, put thẽ ſelues in poſſeſsiõ of diuers of the kinges townes and cities, being parte of his patrimony: he was in the end euẽ drawne by extreme

vio-

violence to ſome attempt, for the recouery of his right, hauing before ſo many yeares together, for borne the reuenge of all former wronges: and now (as it ſeemeth) becauſe he will not giue thē aſſurance to remit all iniuries paſt, and to put vp as many as hereafter they may do vnto him, and quietly lett them continew their wrongfull poſſeſsion of his righte, M. *Cecill* is become ſo mad and angry with him, that he raileth vpon him in open proclamation (wherein I ſuppoſe I miſtake not the perſon) for albeit the proclamatiō be publiſhed in the name of the Queene, yet muſt it needes be written by the directiō of him which is *Domine fac totum*, who as it ſeemeth, being in ſome great choler, was ouer haſty in the choiſe of his Scribe, or ſomuch ouer-weened in his owne wiſdome, that he thought no one of his fond impertinēt and friuolous reaſons could be controled. And therefore with much impudē cie he ſaith, that the king of Spaine hathe continually diſturbed the ſtate of England 33. yeares together, and he greatly laboreth to make the world belieue, that either the king did neuer know, or els had vtterly forgotten, whether the Engliſh had euer don vnto him any iniuries at all, and therefore could neuer think vpon any meanes of remedy or reuenge, yf he were not vrged forward and put in memorie of them, by a fewe prieſtes and Ieſuites.

He accuſeth the Pope, of exhauſting the treaſure of the Churche, without conſent of the college of Cardinalles. VVherein he ſeemeth as thoughe he pitied the waſting of the Churches treaſure, who could wiſh in his harte that the

Pope

Pope and all his Cardinalles, were as poore as euer was *Iobe*.

He would make it seeme an iniury, that this treasure is employed in the warres of Fraunce, because that realme hathe bene a defender of the Romaine Churche in all their oppressiõs: where as it rather might seeme an iniury, yf the Pope should not now relieue them, that had assisted the Church in former oppressions, who I think he cannot meane to haue bene *Nauarr* and his *Huguenotes*.

And verely it seemeth, that this mannes great prosperitie dothe make him to forget himself, & dothe bereaue him of his iudgement. For who may els imagyne that his vanitie should be so great, or his lack of wiser matter so litle, as to set foorth in proclamation that the King of Spaine did practize with men of base birth of the English nation, who giueth credit vnto none, but vnto such as to whome all Christẽdome yeildeth honor, for their knowne vertue and wisdome, being also of honorable, or very honest parẽtage and therefore not base of birth. Neither seemeth he to remẽber with what woorshipful squyres he practizeth withall against the King, in *Holland* and *Zealand*: nor yet what Sir walter Rawleghe dreamed of himself, how King Henry the eighte told him, that he did very much wooder, that one *Cecill* was now come to beare so great sway in the courte, whose name in his tyme was so obscure in the countri. Neither cõsidereth he, that albeit by his owne parẽtage he is but meane, that he hath litle betred himself by his matches, his first wyf being but the sister of a *Pedãte*, and

The States.

M. Rawleghes dreame.

and his later ſo lately come out of the kitchin, that her poſteritie for ſome diſcents, muſt nedes ſmell of the fat of the frying pan: which were nedeleſſe here to be aleaged, were it not to manifeſt his Lordſhipes inſolent vanitie, in ſtanding vpon ſuch toyes, as with wiſemen are eſteemed as fethers in the ayre: who in reſpect of meane parentage do neuer accompt the leſſe of wiſe or woorthy mennes qualities.

It is alſo a lyke matter of moment, that he ſpeaketh of the Kinges charges for the maintenáce of ſtudents, vnleſſe it be to inſinuate cõpaſſion, aſwell of his as of the Popes expences: but his ſaying that they are a number of diſſolute yong men, is an exceeding ſhamefull & malitious ſlaunder.

He would proue that none are put to deathe for religion, becauſe as he ſaith numbers of men, of welth of contrary religion, are not touched in their lyves, landes, goodes, or liberties, but with the paymét of a pecuniary ſomme (which being but a trifle of 20. pounde the moneth he nameth not) and yet many haue ſcarſly the libertie of their priſons, while theire landes, and goodes are ſeazed on, for this pecuniary trifle. And yf any fewe for ſome colour of clemencie be ſet at liberty, their licence comonly excedeth not aboue 20. dayes, and it is bothe vnder bondes & ſuretiſes, with limitation of their reſidence. And becauſe theſe numbers are not put to death for religion, he ſeeketh to proue that none are put to death for religion: which he thinketh he may the rather auouch, for that neither Ieſuites, Seminary prieſtes, nor other Catholikes, are expreſly

preſly cõdemned to death for ſaying or hearing *Maſſe* or the lyke, but the one is condemned and put to death becauſe he is a prieſt, and the other for receyuing him. VVhereby the world may vnderſtand, that no Catholike ſhould be put death for any exerciſe of his religion, ſo he would not come in the company of prieſtes: nor prieſtes, yf they would remaine and vſe their functions in *Italy* or other countries, ſhould not be put to death for treaſon in *England*.

It is no leſſe ridiculous, to call the Lord Cardinall a ſcholer, who being now threeſcore yeares of age, hathe bene choſen to be a head and gouernour of colleges and ſchollers, bothe in England & in other countries, aboue 36. yeares paſt. And hathe profeſſed in diuers famous vniuerſities, and written ſo many excellent bookes, as the aduerſarie will neuer be able to anſwere: and in the opinion of the beſt and wiſeſt of Chriſtendome, was woorthely choſen vnto his preſent dignitie, & was of late in very neere electiõ to haue bene preferred vnto the higheſt eſtate of all others in the world. And it is a parſonall ly, to ſay that F. *Parſons* dothe arrogate vnto himſelf the name of the King Catholikes confeſſor: whoſe iuſt credit and reputatiõ, for his knowne wiſdome and vertue, bothe with this King, and many other noble princes, no Engliſh proclamation can be able to diminiſh.

If M. *Cecill* himſelf, had obtayned his eſtemation for vertue and honeſt endeuours, & ſo had bene the beginer of his houſe, it had bene far greater honor and comendation for him, then

by the ruyne of ſomany bothe honorable & ver tuous, the conſuming and oppreſsing of the peo ple, & the hazard of the deſtructiō of the realme ſo arrogantly to aduaunce himſelf, and to extole his owne glory in painted pedegrees, borrowed and farr fetched: and his poſteritie might then more longer haue retained their honor and re-nowne, then perhappes they are now lyke to do, becauſe great treaſure heaped together by ra-pyne wrong, and violēce, is neuer enioyed with long felicitie. For *De male quæſitis, vix gaudet tertius hæres.* And yf the feares that he dothe faine be true, it is not impoſsible but his houſe as it hathe begun, ſo it may end with himſelf. And this perhaps he ſomwhat ſuſpecteth and there fore as all tyrantes are woont, do he ſeeke to for-tify himſelf by the effuſion of innocent blood: as thoughe that were the only way to auoyde all reuenges of iniuries, donne to the king of Spai-ne. And that his vniuſt accuſing of innocent mē of treaſon, could colour his owne exceeding trea ſons, that hathe broughte the realme into ſuch preſent miſery, and deliuered it vnto ſo-many enſuing perills and dangers, as it now dothe at-tend.

For it is he, that neither of conſcyence, nor any other cauſe, but meerly for his owne ambi-tiō, hathe wrought the mutation and change of religion, whereof ſuch wonderfull inconueniē-ces haue followed.

It is he, that hathe procured the enmytie, which Englād hathe at this preſent with ſo-ma ny Chriſtian Princes and ſtates, & chiefly with the moſt potent King of the world.

It is he, that for the prosecuting of his impious intentions, hathe sent foorthe so-many thousandes of the naturall people of the realme to be cõsumed in forreyne countries.

It is he, that hathe caused so-many great and generall exactions, and that hathe exhausted the treasure of the Queene & realme for the maintenãce of rebells, and purchasing of enemyes to his naturall country.

It is he, that hathe bene the occasion, that the Queene (contrary to her owne honor, and the well lyking of her other counselors which she most affected) hathe made somany offers of mariage to forreyne princes: and yet notwithstanding hathe euer vtterly perswaded her from mariage, thereby to bury her posteritie in her owne body. *Leicester Hatton.*

It is he, that was one of the most principall contriuers of the deuysed plott, for the trecherous slaughter of the Scottish Queene, which will redownde vnto the eternall infamy of England, and dothe threaten a continuall reuenge.

It his he, that because he could not somtyme establish such heyr apparent as he listed, hathe lefte the succesion of the crowne so confusedly among somany competitors, bothe within, and without the realme: which tendeth vnto the effusiõ of the blood of infynite thowsandes, more then alredy he hathe brought to distruction.

It is he, that hathe bene the causer of al the inconueniences troobles, and daungers, that the realme hathe alredy past, or dothe presently sustaine, or hereafter may suffer, being now *These 33. yeares.*

brought into ſuch a labyrinth of calamities, as neuer theſame, nor any other can be remẽbred to haue bene brought vnto. And as this hathe bene wrought by himſelf and not by Catholykes, ſo himſelf and not Catholykes, is iuſtly therefore to be accuſed and blamed. And howſoeuer he do now in ſupreame auᶜthoritie falſly impute vnto others the crymes of treaſons, and trecheries: yf the matter might come to any equall hearing before indifferẽt iudges, it ſhould cleerely be prooued, that he which wiſheth the reformation of his country, cannot be a traitor to his country: but that *Cecill* being the cauſer of the moſt enormious euills thereof, is a traitor himſelf, and the greateſt, that euer England nowriſhed, and farr more noyſome and pernitious to the realme, then euer were the *Spencers*, *Peeter* of *Gauerſtone*, or any other that euer abuſed either Prince or people. And becauſe no man dare frame an endytement againſt him, I will heere omit many other articles of highe treaſõ, but yf any will vndertake to iuſtifie his actions in his courſe of gouernment, let him know, that there is ſufficiẽt matter of reply reſerued for him, which is not extracted out of *Mother Hubberds* tale, of the falſe fox and his crooked cubbes, but is to be vttred in plaine proſe, and ſhal lay open to the world, his birth, his lyf, and perhaps his death, ſeing his deteſtable actions are ſuch, as do aſke vengeance of heauen and earth.

Proſopopoia or mother Hubberds tale.

It is a lamentable grief to conſider, that the manifold harmes which comonly the afflicted ſubiects do ſuffer, the Princes themſelues do neuer feele, and that the perills & dangers wherein

wherein they do ſtand, are kept from their ſight and knowlege by ſuch, as in whome they repoſe ouermuch truſt and confidence, vntill with violence they do fall vpon their owne heades, and comonly when all remedy is paſt to auoyde thē. And thus the great euills which are cauſed by one man, do redownde vnto the vniuerſall harme, both of the Prince and people. How greatly dangerous is it then for any Prince, to be wholy led and conducted by the perſwaſiō of one man, and to deliuer the poſſeſsiō of his or her eares, vnto the deceitfull tonge of a flatterer. By ſuch meanes was the puiſant Emperor *Charlemaigne*, miſguyded, whoſe ouer-great affyance in the wicked counſell of one only *Gano*, was the occaſion of wōderfull harmes, that fell bothe vpon himſelf and his people: which great inconuenience is by a moderne Poet greatly laméted, who amōg other his verſes to theſame purpoſe, hathe theſe enſuing. *Arioſto.*

Ben ſaria il dritto, che tornaſſe il danno
Solamente ſù quei, che l'error fanno.

And happy were it for the Queene & realme of England, yf all the ſuſtayned or expected harmes of that Prince or people, being directly cauſed by one man, might iuſtly redownd vpon the cauſer himſelf. But more happy had it bene, to haue ſought in tyme by iuſt ſatisfaction of iniuries, to haue auoided the deſerued reuēges of thē. But moſt infortunate is it, that he which hathe bene the beginner of theſe miſchieues, & hathe no meaning to redreſſe them, is yet permitted to plunge the realme into what further calamities himſelf liſteth, and to hazard the ſhedding of the

beſt bloud of the Nobilitie and People, for the only eſtabliſhing of his owne houſe and poſteritie: to make the ruinated families of the one, & the dead bodies of the other, the ſteppes to mount vnto his entended height.

He commaundeth bothe England and Scotland, he laboureth inceſſantly with the Queene to make his eldeſt ſonne deputy of Ireland, and (as it is aforeſaid) entendeth to match his grandchild with the Lady *Arbella*, & ſo to put in for a kingdome yf not for the *Monarchie* of *Albion*. And for the better contriuing of the whole domination to himſelf, he hathe lately brought in his ſecond ſonne, to be of the Queenes councell and keper of her priuy ſeale: the which of wyſe-men is much maruailed at, and the rather for that the Queene is reputed learned, and therefore ſeemeth to be the more ouerſeene in the choiſe of ſo ill ſhapen and crooked a counſelor (hauing neither wiſdome nor experience) to forgett the precept of the graue Philoſopher, who giueth eſpetial warning of ſuch ſo marked by nature, in theſe woordes: *Caue ab his, quos natura ſignauit*. And albeit ſhe had forgotten ſuch wiſe aduice of ſo auncięt an author, I wiſh ſhe had called to mynde the woordes of a later (thoughe of leſſe aucthoritie) which perhaps for her recreation ſhe may ſomtyme haue red: who in his *Macaronicall* verſes giueth good notes, to beware of ſuch deformed creatures, ſaying in admiration.

This keeping of the priue ſeale hath a miſtery in it.

O Deus, a guerzis, Zoppis, gobbisq; cauendum eſt
Nulla fides gobbis, mancum nihil credite Zoppis.
Si ſguerſus bonus eſt, inter miracula ſcribam.

And

And yf her Matie. had bene disposed to prefer him, it seemeth vnto me, that to haue made him a writer vnder some clerck or officier of the courte, had bene very conueniēt for him, because as a courtier told her, he was fitteſt for such purpose, for that he caried his deske on his back. But such is the omnipotencie of his father, that he plotteth to effectuate greater thinges thē this, and thinketh to determyne bothe of crowne and kingdome, and to dispose of prince and people, and to purchase his desyred greatnesse with the effusion of the blood of somany thowsandes as he shal list to send vnto the slaughter.

He hathe of late bene very vigilāt to synde such in the Queenes debt after their deceasse, as before by her fauour and countenāce, vsed extorsions in the comon welth: but himself yf he were wel looked vnto, would be found much more in her debt, by how much more he hathe menaged her treasure so long a tyme together, and wrong himself into so many matters of gaine, and was neuer yet accomptable for all the thirtene score poundes by yeare, which he hathe exacted of somany Catholike recusants. VVhat should I speake of his pluralitie of offices, wherewith he can neuer be contented, but maketh a monopoly of all thinges within the realme, that any way may turne to his comoditie. By which meanes his gettinges are so infinite, that his seruantes with the very shreddes of his briberies and extorsions are able to purchase great reneuewes & to buyld stately palaces: & yet himself is so encrochīng, that he letteth not to entrude into Churche matters, yea and to contend with the B. of

As Leicester and others.

Canterbury, about the appointing of preachers.

He kepeth (I knowe not by what vnhappy cõ ſtellation, or rather deuiliſh enchauntemẽt) the fauour of his prince, which neuer ſubiect ſomuch abuſed. He hathe made himſelf the very owner of her determinations, not permitting her to recompence the ſeruice of her other officers & ſeruantes, and diuers tymes when ſhe hathe promiſed reward, he denieth her the meanes of performance, and ſo forceth her to breake and go from her woorde: yea he maketh her accõptable to hí, how ſhe entẽdeth to diſpoſe of her owne: which yet muſt neuer be, but as himſelf lyketh. Al men may iuſtly lay vnto him the vndoing of the realme, not ſomuch cõdemning her whoſe ſexe is eaſy to be miſ-led, nor the reſt of the councell whoſe willes by him are violently ouerruled. He is neither embraced in the courte, nor beloued in the coũtry. He is freindly to none, but for his owne profit. He is not welcome to his peeres, nor of affection followed of his inferiors: but reſembleth a ſtorme in the aire, which all creatures do feare and ſhun, and none do loue or deſyre.

And albeit that he now in his altytude, dothe manifeſt in himſelf the very nature and conditiõ of a *Tyrant*, whoſe vile and abiect courage is to murther & butcher ſuch as innocẽtly liue vndẽr his iuriſdictiõ: let him not think that thereby he can diuert the iuſt iudgmẽt of God, vnto whome their ſacred bloode dothe inceſſantly call for vengeance: Nor that all the reuenges of iniuries, wrõges, and violences, don vnto other princes, and eſpetially vnto the King of Spaine, cã poſsibly be auoyded by his killing of a fewe poore prieſtes,

and

and Ieſuytes, which (he may aſſure himſelf) ſhould be remembred, yf there were neither Ieſuyte nor Seminarie Prieſt liuing in the world.

And he that preſerued his Prophets, Apoſtles, and the holy men of the primitiue Churche in caues, dennes, woodes, & wilderneſſes, & fed thē miraculouſly from heauē, will not forſake thoſe that ſhall ſerue him ſincerely, but will giue thē courage and meanes alſo, bothe to enter and to abyde in the realme, and there to ſerue ſuch numbers, as of mercie he will haue ſaued. Againſt which apoſtolicall practize, let him proſecute what new *Cecillian Inquiſition* he can deuiſe, and to vexe forraine princes abrode, let him make as many ſhippes to the ſea as he liſt, and to fortifie himſelf at home, let him commaunde as many muſters by land as he pleaſeth, our hope and confidence is in God, who can diſsipate the councell of *Achitophel* and all others that are againſt him.

During the tyme of thirty and three yeares, bothe lawe, ſwoord, & all humaine force hathe bene vſed, to extinguiſhe the Catholike party, pulpites, proclamations, and all meanes els employed againſt it: their liuinges & comodities, diſpoſed of by the aduerſary: and yet theſame ſtandeth, and putteth him in more feare then euer afore. And yf he were not blynde, & perhappes by God himſelf blynded for his ſinnes, he would ſeeke another way to ſaue himſelf *ab ira ventura*, which is to ceaſe from perſecuting of Gods Churche, and to returne vnto the obedience thereof, where is mercy, & the only way to remedy all theſe feares, & to eſcape that which he feareth not, and that is, eternall damnation.

The cõclu sion.

THus good reader haue I briefly ended this precedent discours, and declared vnto thee bothe by whose meanes, and in what manner, the realme of *England* is distressed with somany present calamities, and deliuered to such feares, of greater future troobles.

The mature consideration of the premises, I refer vnto thy indifferent iudgement. The iust blame of these euills, where it is iustly deserued. And the reformation of so great iniquity, to the infynite mercy of almighty God: who voutsaf to woork thesame, by the sweetest, & easiest meanes, that his iustice may admitt.

And now in conclusion I haue not deemed it amisse, to giue the some caueat of a vile and hatefull kynde of dealing, which the aduersary of late hathe vsed, in diuulging nũbers of false and defamatorie libells: which it seemeth custome hathe made so familiar to the libellers themselues, that by an ordinary habite which therein they haue gotten, they seme to haue forgotten, that there is any difference betwene lying, and telling ttuthe: for otherwise it might be presumed, they would neuer so greatly busy themselues, so egregiously to abuse the world. And albeit as the Psalme saith *Mẽtita est iniquitas sibi*, & that these libells do comonly cary their owne discredit in themselues, by being ouercharged with most palpable lies: yet because they tend vnto the furtherance of the pretended Gospell, and that the necessitie of that cause so much requireth it, they must passe without contradiction of them that can detect them of falshoode, and be taken for verities, of those that are not able to discerne them

them for vntruthes. And therefore in reſpect of pitie of the abuſed multytude, I wi'l make recitall of ſome fewe of this kynde, to the end that the reader may giue ſuch creditt vnto the lyke hereafter, as he ſhall well perceaue the former to haue deſerued.

Of theſe ſortes of libells, many do declare great numbers of French & Flemiſh victories, which are ſo famous, that ſundry of them were neuer knowne nor heard of in all the world, but only in England.

Others are of obſcure and tryfling matters, except ſuch as is that of the happy conqueſt of the ſuburbes of *Paris*, &c. *Printed by vv Blac vvall.*

Others tell of viſions in the ayre, which are enterpreted to preſage detriment to thoſe of the league. *Printed by Nelſon. 1590.*

Somtymes they are of propheſied victories before they happen, and appointed tymes of the death of Princes, as that the duke of *Parma* ſhould die at martinmas 1590. *Printed by VVoolf 1590.*

Some are of triumphes of victories, before they be obtayned, as when the Earle of *Eſſex*, was to go with his forces into Normandie. *Printed by Allde. 1591.*

Some haue bene ſet foorthe to make loſſes ſeeme victories, as the diſcours of the Portugall voyage, and the loſſe of the Reuenge. *Printed 1589. And by ponſonby 1591.*

And whereas there was one *Caçalla* & others of his company, executed for Hereſy and Apoſtaſie at *Validolid* in *Spaine* 30. yeares paſt: the manner of this execution is in an Engliſh libell newly ſet foorth, and ſaid to be for profeſsion of the Goſpell, and to be donne but of late. *Printed by Nelſon 1591.*

In lyke ſorte is very perticularly ſet downe, the

the glorious & conſtant martirdome of an Engliſhmã (not lõg ſince) in the towne of Dunkerck, whoſe torments endured fowre dayes: & yet there was neuer any ſuch man, nor any ſuch matter hard of in the ſaid towne, as all the inhabitants will witneſſe.

Printed at Londõ. 1590.

So was it publiſhed, that the King of Spaine (whome the libeller calleth the *Archtyrant* of the world) was dead.

Printed by Purfoot 1591.

And another libell that came foorthe of late entituled *A fig for the Spaniard* cõtradicteth that lie, with another as manifeſt an vntruthe, and ſaith that *Phillip* of Spaine is not dead, but lyeth bedred.

Printed by VVoolf 1592.

In all theſe and ſundry other lyke lybells, it ſeemeth they haue chalenged vnto themſelues a kynde of priuilege, to raile and raue at Princes, and to be-ly and ſlaunder whome they liſt: and this good dealing is vſed, for the aduauncement of the cauſe of the Goſpell, but argueth in dede, that all the plotts and practizes of the aduerſary as they firſt were begun, ſo haue they bene contynued, and ſo are they ſtill vpholden and vnderpropped, with cogging, foiſting, lying and cooſining: which equity & truthe hathe euer deteſted, and all honorable ſtates and honeſt myndes, do vtterly abhorr. Neither is theſame able to continewe the vſurped credit of the newnamed Goſpell, but muſt needes in tyme bring it to extreeme hatred and contempt.

As in the forged cõfeſſion Printed by VVoolf 1590.

And it ſeemeth that the exceding malice of ſome of theſe libellers, hath tranſported them into ſuch a feruour of folly, that they imagyne all Chriſtendome (without any queſtion to the cõtrary

The fig giuer.

craty bothe to knowe & acknowledge, *Iohn Calvyns* expoſition of the Goſpell (as it is vnderſtood in England) to be the very Goſpell of Chriſt in dede: els would they neuer ſo peremptorily raile at other princes and people, for not embracing theſame.

The Sacred Scripture and true Goſpell of Chriſt, as it hathe euer bene inuiolably preſerued in the Catholike Churche, ſo is it only of that Churche moſt highly eſteemed, and folowed. And no Caluiniſts or other Sectaries, haue any ſcripture at all, that they haue not had from that Churche. And by this true Goſpell and woord of God, the woord of Caluyne, and miſnamed Goſpell of Proteſtants, is clerely proued to be falſe and flat hereſy. And yf the Engliſh Goſpellers, will not ſtand to the iudgement of Catholikes in this point, all the *Lutherans* of *Germany* will reſolutely offer to prooue theſame alſo out of a ſuppoſed Goſpell of theirs, which they as confidently chalenge to themſelues, as any Engliſhe Goſpellers cā poſsibli claime any other. And therefore my maſters in England, muſt not ſo run in crie with their peculier *Goſpell*, as to chyde others for nor following theſame, when they belieue it not to be true, but do truly belieue it to be falſe. And ſo leauing this later clauſe for *A fig to the figmonger*. I wiſh the reader to ſuſpect the diſcordant Engliſh Goſpell of hereſy, and the Goſpellers libells, of malitious lies.

FINIS.